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## RATES, TAXES, AND VOTES.

It has become quite the fashion of late to relegate all questions of importance to the new Parliament. Whenever any point of difficulty arises, the invariable cry is "This is a matter that had better be left to the new constituencies and the Parliament about to be elected. A moribund House of Commons and moribund electoral bodies are incompetent to deal with it." Now, while this is a very natural course in existing circumstances, for individuals and aggregate bodies whose lease of power is on the eve of expiring do not care to undertake greater responsibility than they can help, it is pretty clear that, if the new Parliament attempts to accomplish half the work that is cut out for it, and to settle half the questions that await its decision, it may have a life of honour, but certainly not of ease. There are matters of legislation and matters of administration to be dealt with. Political reforms, legal reforms, social reforms, fiscal reforms, and administrative reforms require accomplishment; and all are handed over to the consideration of the young legislative giant who is shortly to have his birth, and who, if he perform a tithe of the work allocated to him, will, indeed, prove himself a very miracle of industry, intelligence, and patience.

Perhaps the most urgent, and not least difficult, task the new Parliament will have to undertake is that of introducing some sort of order into the confusion that now reigns in respect of rates, taxes, and votes. The British Constitution, we are continually told, is a most complex machine, the working of which is regulated by impulses here and checks there, motive force in one direction being counterbalanced by hindrances and obstructions in another. And this is unquestionably and pre-eminently true as regards the vote-conferring qualifications of citizens. There are no end of different qualifications, each of which is clogged with tests and conditions so varied and complex that no one seems to be quite certain as to what gives a right to vote and what does not. There are several Acts of Parliament bearing upon the matter, none of which are quite clear in their signification, except to practised legal minds, if even to them; and there are various clauses of different Acts that must be considered in connection with each other and by some means made to harmonise, if that be possible, which, for our part, we very much doubt. Verily, a great time is in prospect for political lawyers; and vestry clerks, parish overseers, revising barristers, and other such officials, will have hard work of it for some weeks to come.

First, there are the old £10 occupiers in boroughs, who, it seems, by the Act of 1832 must pay assessed taxes as well as poor rates ere they can get upon the register—that is, we suppose, if they are not upon the register already; for it is

to be presumed that the old electors who have established their claims will not be disturbed. But even that is not certain, because it consists with our knowledge that persons are on the register and have voted who yet did not pay assessed taxes, for the simple reason that they were never called upon to do so. If, however, the rule of paying assessed taxes is to be enforced upon all parties qualified under the old £10-occupier franchise, the parties to whom we have referred will find themselves in an awkward predicament.

point has been cleverly taken advantage of by certain collectors of assessed taxes, who have endeavoured to obtain an additional quarter's payment by intimating that all taxes due up to March must be paid on or before July 20, whereas those due up to January only need be discharged.

Next there are the householders admitted to the franchise by the Act of 1867, who are merely required to have paid their poor rates and need not trouble themselves about assessed taxes at all—that is, if their premises be used as dwelling-

houses only, and not for business purposes. If, however, one or more rooms in a house be occupied as shop, warehouse, store-room, or workshop, then, according to Mr. Denman, the assessed-tax test comes into play again; and as, in a vast number of instances, portions of houses are devoted to business purposes, a fine field for objection and confusion is opened up here.

Then there is the lodger franchise, which is not dependent upon the payment of rates or taxes at all, but simply on the occupation of premises which, unfurnished, are worth £10 a year. And here, as the only available evidence of value must be the declaration of the lodger and of his landlord—in other words, the weekly rent-book—it is clear that that must either be accepted without cavil, and so a wide door be opened for collusion, or an equally broad field for objections and disputes will be furnished.

So much as regards boroughs, though we have not exhausted the catalogue, for there are freeman and other peculiar suffrages in some constituencies. In counties, all these elements of confusion exist, with the further possibility of difficulties as to leaseholds, copyholds, and freeholds of the clear annual value of £5 and upwards; and we suspect that these difficulties will turn out to be neither few nor trifling. A man may possess property under a freehold, leasehold, &c., upon which he has borrowed money; and some nice points will doubtless arise as to when the clear annual value line is passed and when it is not. Then, there is the numerous class of persons who, by the help of building

societies, have bought houses which they do not themselves occupy, and have paid off a part only of the purchase-money. Are these persons to be regarded as the owners of their houses, or are they not? Are they to be compelled, if called upon, to produce the books of their respective societies in order to show that they have a clear interest in the premises to the extent of at least £5 a year? And are societies to be bound to submit to such exhibitions of their affairs; and that, too, simply to serve electioneering purposes?

Altogether, the qualifications for voting are in a very pretty state of complexity and confusion. The law is interpreted in one way in one parish, and in a totally different and often antagonistic way in another; and much



THE LATE STERLING COYNE, ESQ.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN WATKINS.)

Their votes will be endangered, and that, in many cases, without their being in the least aware of it. The matter, too, is further complicated by the fact that the collectors of poor rates and of assessed taxes are often—indeed, generally—distinct persons, and that, while parish officials are bound to put all parties on the register who discharge their local liabilities, collectors of assessed taxes, who are the servants of the Imperial Government, are under no such obligation. So that a man may think himself safe, having paid his poor rates and had his name returned by the local official, and may yet be struck off the roll in consequence of there being no proof before the revising barrister that his assessed taxes have been paid. The confusion on this



hardship, inconvenience, and injustice must needs result. Surely, then, we are justified in expecting that one of the first tasks undertaken by the new Parliament will be an effort to bring order and uniformity out of all this complication and confusion. One simple and uniform test of fitness for a vote ought to be exacted in all boroughs, and one simple and uniform test in all counties; or, what would be better still, and to which we believe we must come at last, one simple and uniform test throughout the whole country; so that the qualification that confers a vote in one place will confer it everywhere, and men will know whether they be entitled to go upon the register or not, and be under no necessity of defending their rights at every turn, and of continually having to meet quibbles and frivolous objections. And—though we cannot enter upon that branch of the subject at present—this simplifying of the tax-paying qualification will necessarily lead to the simplifying of the whole system of local taxation and its collection: a system that very much indeed requires unification and reform.

#### THE LATE MR. STERLING COYNE.

In the death of Mr. Joseph Sterling Coyne, which occurred last Saturday, the lovers of a light and pleasant literature cannot but lament the departure of one more veteran accustomed to handle his pen with the skill of an adept. As a writer for the stage and, in a critical capacity, for the newspaper press, Mr. Coyne had for more than thirty years worked bravely and well. His career as an author certainly did not begin at a premature period of life; for when his first dramatic piece—a farce, called "The Phrenologist"—was brought out, in Dublin, he must have reached his thirty-second year. Genial, frank, and good-humoured, he was a favourite beyond the bounds of clique or coterie; and the critics who may in strict confidence be unable to accord him the high honours of literary fame will be foremost to allow that the world of authorship "could have better spared a better man."

Joseph Sterling Coyne, according to "Men of the Time," was the son of an officer in the Irish Commissariat, and was born at Birr, King's county, Ireland, in 1805. He received his education at Dungannon School, and was intended for the legal profession, which, however, he soon abandoned for literature. His first attempt was the farce called "The Phrenologist," brought out at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, in June, 1835, for the benefit of Mr. James Browne, a popular actor. In the year following (1836) Mr. Coyne supplied the Dublin manager with two more farces, "Honest Cheats" and "The Four Lovers." In 1837 he came to England to push his fortunes, and his farce of "The Queer Subject" first introduced him to a London audience, at the Adelphi Theatre, the leading part being sustained by John Reeve. The success of this opening decided his future course. The Haymarket and the Adelphi appear to have been his favourite fields of action, but he has written for nearly every theatre in and about London. Among his productions we may enumerate "Helen Oakleigh," "The Merchant and his Clerks," "The Queen of the Abruzzi," "The Signal," "Valsha," "Presented at Court," "The Hope of the Family," "The Old Chateau," "The Secret Agent," "The Man of Many Friends," "The Lost Pleiad," "My Wife's Daughter," "Everybody's Friend," "The Love-Knot," "Black Sheep," "Nothing Venture Nothing Win," "Pats of the Parterres," "Fraud and its Victims," "Angel or Devil," "The Woman in Red," "The World of Dreams," &c. Mr. Coyne's popular farce, "How to Settle Accounts with your Landlady," originally produced at the Haymarket in 1847, was translated into French and acted at one of the Parisian theatres, under the title of "Une Femme dans ma Fontaine." It has also made its appearance on the German stage. In the long list of Mr. Coyne's dramas we find scarcely an illustration of Irish character, the most finished being introduced in a farce called "The Tipperary Legacy," produced at the Adelphi in 1847. For a number of years he was the dramatic critic of the *Sunday Times*, and a contributor to other London newspapers. He also is the author of "The Scenery and Antiquities of Ireland," and of some works of fiction. In 1856 he became Secretary to the Dramatic Authors' Society, which post he retained until his decease. Mr. Coyne was, jointly with Mr. Mark Lemon and Mr. Henry Mayhew, one of the projectors and original proprietors of *Punch*.

A NUMBER OF SHARKS have recently appeared in the Southampton waters. Their visit has caused a great scarcity of fish.

RATES, TAXES, AND REGISTRATION.—The Hon. George Denham has given the following counsel's opinion to the Paddington Vestry as to the necessity of payment of assessed taxes, as well as poor rates, by persons claiming to be registered as voters under the Reform Act of 1867:—"I am of opinion that occupiers of dwelling-houses, in a borough, who come within the requirements of sec. 3 and sec. 61 of 30th and 31st Vict., cap. 102, are not bound to pay the assessed taxes as well as the poor rates in order to entitle to vote or to be placed on the list of voters, but that persons who only occupy houses other than 'dwelling-houses' (as defined by the Interpretative clause (1), warehouses, counting-houses, shops, or other buildings separately or jointly with land—are so bound, inasmuch as their qualification is wholly under 2nd William IV., cap. 45, sec. 27, and is therefore one to which 11th and 12th Vict., cap. 90, still applies (see sec. 56 of the last Act of last Session, in addition to the other clauses referred to in the question). I think that, having regard to sec. 3 of the Act of last Session and also to sections 56 and 59, it is clear that the requirements of sec. 27 of the Act William IV., and sec. 1 of the 11th and 12th Vict., cap. 90, cannot be imported into the new Act so far as relates to the suffrage gained by occupation of dwelling-houses and payment of rates, and that sec. 59 of the new Act excludes the franchise from the operation of those enactments under the restrictive words 'so far as it is consistent with the tenor thereof.'"

STORY OF A BEAR.—The *Ludington* (Mich.) *Record*, of June 30 contains the following:—"Mr. Henry Flynn lives about forty miles east of this place, at, or near, the logging camps of Mr. Ludington. He started one morning to take a horse to pasture, about two miles distant from the house, and as his little girl seemed very anxious to go, he put her upon the horse's back, and let her ride a short distance, perhaps forty rods from the house, where he put her down and told her to run home. He noticed that the child was standing where he left her, and on looking back after going a little further, saw her playing in the sand. He soon passed out of sight, and was gone about an hour, expecting, of course, that the child would return to the house after playing a few moments. On returning home he made inquiry about the child of its mother, who said she had not seen the child, and supposed he had taken her along with him. On going to the spot where he left her he saw huge bear tracks in the sand, and at once came to the conclusion that the child had been carried off by the bear. The family immediately made search through the forest, which was grown up to almost a jungle, rendering their search very slow. All day these anxious parents searched for some trace of their child, nor did they stop when darkness came on, but remained in the woods calling the child by her name. Morning came, and their search was fruitless. A couple of gentlemen, looking at land, came to the house, and being informed of the circumstance, immediately set out to help to find the child. The gentlemen wandered about, and as they were passing a swampy spot where the undergrowth was thick, they either called the child, or else were talking loud, when one of them heard the child's voice. He then called the child by name, and told her to come out of the bushes. She replied that the bear would not let her. The men then crept through the brush, and when near the spot where the child and bear were, they heard a splash in the water, which the child said was the bear. On going to her, they found her standing upon a log extending about half way across the river. The bear had undertaken to cross the river on the log, and being closely pursued, left the child and swam away. She had received some scratches about her face, arms, and legs, and her clothes were almost torn from her body; but the bear had not bitten her to hurt her, only the marks of his teeth being found on her back, where, in taking hold of her clothes to carry her, he had taken the flesh also. The little one says the bear would put her down occasionally to rest, and would put his nose up to her face, when she would slap him, and then the bear would hang his head by her side, and purr and rub against her like a cat. The men asked her if she was cold in the night, and she told them that the old bear lay down beside her and put his 'arms' round her, and kept her warm, though she did not like his long hair. She was taken home to her parents."

### Foreign Intelligence.

#### FRANCE.

The *Moniteur du Soir*, alluding in its bulletin to the recent debates in the Legislative Chambers of the different countries of Europe, says:—"Nowhere have there been any irritating discussions upon foreign politics. Public opinion has everywhere pronounced in favour of ideas of moderation, and has supported the respective Governments in the task of preserving peace, which is the aim of their mutual efforts."

The *Paris Pays* publishes a violent manifesto, purporting to come from the "Central Committee of Action of the Revolutionary Commune of Paris," in which the assassination of the Emperor Napoleon is openly recommended. The *Paris public* is, however, of opinion that the document is a mere fabrication by the police, or else a forgery by the *Pays*.

#### SPAIN.

A telegram from Madrid says that the Spanish Minister in England has informed his Government that General Prim has disappeared from London, and gone probably to Lisbon, where all the military men of the Progressist party who have recently had to leave Spain are said to be proceeding. The telegram adds that the Spanish Government are becoming alarmed, and that a state of siege will probably be proclaimed ere long. The belief prevailed in Madrid that the Portuguese Ministry are in favour of a revolution in Spain. It is stated at Madrid that the Duke de Montpensier, to mark his sense of the indignity offered him by the Spanish Government, intends to renounce his position as Infant of Spain and all his other Spanish dignities. Violent articles assailing the Queen are being privately circulated in Madrid and the provinces. The Madrid journals consider it probable that Porto Rico will be made the port of call for the West Indian Mail steamers, instead of St. Thomas, in which case the Governor of the Island would make the port free.

#### PORTUGAL.

The Ministerial crisis at Lisbon has at last been overcome, the Marquis Da Sa having succeeded in forming an Administration, of which he assumes the Presidency, and also takes temporary charge of the War and Foreign Affairs departments. The Council of State deliberated on Tuesday on the policy of allowing the Duke de Montpensier to reside in Portugal, and decided on permitting him to do so, notwithstanding the opposition of the French Minister.

#### ITALY.

The Chamber of Deputies have approved the Government bill fixing the military contingent for the present year at 40,000 men, after having rejected a proposal of the committee to fix it at 50,000.

The Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the Pontifical Government and the North German Confederation, dated May 8, contains a clause stipulating for the extradition of deserters.

The ex-King of Naples has visited the camp at Rocca Papa. Brigandage is active, and there are frequent conflicts between the troops and the brigands.

#### PRUSSIA.

The Prussian Government is said to have agreed in principle to the proposals of the Russian Government relative to the use of explosive missiles in war, and to have proposed an international commission to determine the limits within which such missiles may be used, both in rifle and artillery fire. The Russian Government is said to have accepted this proposal, and the commission will probably meet in the autumn.

#### AUSTRIA.

The rupture between the Vatican and the Government of Vienna may now be considered as accomplished. M. de Meyenburg, as stated, has left Rome, after having delivered to Cardinal Antonelli the protest of Baron von Beust against the allocation in which the Pope declares confessional reforms to be null and void. The relations between the two Courts are thus suspended by the departure of the Chargé d'Affaires, as no substitute has been appointed.

The Hungarian Commission on the new Army Bill, which is now sitting, is approaching the completion of its labours. Seven of the difficulties raised by the Opposition have been set aside, and the adoption of the bill as drawn up by the Government is now certain. The right of the common War Minister to call out the Landwehr, which was vigorously contested by the Opposition, is now agreed to, and the proposals for a separate Hungarian Artillery and a separate corps of Engineers have been abandoned.

The *New Free Press* of Vienna states that the Minister of Finance has prepared the preliminary draught of the Budget for 1869, from which it appears that a balance will be established next year between the revenue and the expenditure, without new increase of taxation or contracting a fresh loan.

#### SERVIA.

M. Peter Markovic has been appointed by the Court to act as counsel for Prince Alexander Karageorgievitch, who has refused to surrender for trial. Some of the other prisoners will also be defended by counsel assigned by the Court. It is generally believed that eleven of the persons charged with Prince Michael's murder will be sentenced to death.

#### GREECE.

The address proposed by the Ministerial majority of the Chamber in reply to the speech from the throne has been carried. Referring to Candia, this address says:—"We consider it a sacred duty to afford to a kindred people the aid which is so indispensable to them. We pray that people's desires may be fulfilled."

#### THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. Pendleton has written a letter strongly sustaining Mr. Seymour's candidature for President.

The Senate, by 28 to 5, has passed a bill excluding all the lately rebellious States from participation in the Presidential election, except such as have been admitted to representation in Congress under the Reconstruction Act.

Mr. Stevens has presented to the House of Representatives five additional articles of impeachment, charging Mr. Johnson with abuse of the patronage of his office; with ejecting loyal officials, and appointing their successors in his political interests; with establishing provincial Governments in the South without authority from Congress, with corrupt use of the pardoning power, and with unlawfully restoring the forfeited rebel property. The consideration of these articles was postponed until July 20.

Mr. Reverdy Johnson, the newly-appointed American Minister to England, resigned his seat in the Senate on the 9th. In taking leave of his colleagues, he said that in the office he was about to fill he might find subjects of controversy more or less calculated to disturb for a time the friendly relations between the two Governments; but he did not doubt that such disturbance would be only temporary. "The interests of both nations," continued Mr. Reverdy Johnson, "are so firmly dependent upon a mutual and friendly understanding, that the people of each cannot fail to see the duty of having it observed; and I believe that this can be accomplished by the manifestations of reciprocal goodwill, as our Government is actuated by such a feeling. The complications of the present time, I am satisfied, will soon be removed; and whatever part, under instructions of the President, I may take in the regulations preliminary to such a result, I shall be influenced by a sincere wish to secure to both Governments an adjustment honourable to each; and I have every reason to think I shall be met in the same spirit by the British Government." Mr. Johnson had written his address, and a colleague read it for him. At the conclusion he was much affected as the senators flocked round him to bid him farewell.

#### PARAGUAY.

According to advices from Paraguay to June 10, Humaita still resisted, and vigorously responded to the almost continuous bombardment of the fleet and army. An expedition of 3000 cavalry

and a few light field-pieces had been sent to reconnoitre the position of Lopez at Tebiquary, but was obliged to return, without gaining the object in view, as the river Jacaré, which had to be crossed, was found so much swollen that it could not be forded, and the expedition had no other means of passing. It was, however, ascertained from prisoners that President Lopez had with him at Tebiquary the rest of the army, numbering from 7000 to 8000 men. Telegrams received in Montevideo from Buenos Ayres just before the mail left mention another attempt of the Paraguayans to dislodge the allies from the peninsula of the Chaco, in front of Humaita. They were, however, repulsed, with severe loss, the allies also suffering considerably. The rising of the waters of the Paraguay, if it continue, may possibly compel the allies to abandon their position, as it will be completely submerged several feet. The capital of Paraguay has been removed from Assumption to Luge, about two leagues further inland, where the foreign Consuls have been invited to reside. The *Semanario*, the gazette of Paraguay, a number of which appeared at Buenos Ayres, is now printed at the new capital.

#### HAYTI.

Intelligence from Hayti states that General Salnave is closely besieged in Port-au-Prince. The war-steamer *Liberté* had joined the rebels. Jacmel had been plundered by negroes from the interior.

#### BRITISH AMERICA.

"Confederation Day"—that is, the anniversary of the union of the British North American provinces—was celebrated throughout Canada on the 1st inst. In Nova Scotia, however, the local Government had refused to allow the Queen's printer of the province, who is a member of the Parliament of the Canadian Confederation, to publish a proclamation of the Governor-General enjoining the observance of July 1 as the anniversary of the establishment of the Confederation. The administrator of the Government of the province thereupon published it on his own authority and placarded it all over Halifax. It is stated that in the town of Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, no celebration of the day took place, and only two flags were displayed. On July 4, however, the anniversary of American independence, a salute of thirty-six guns was fired at sunrise, noon, and sunset, and United States flags were hung out all over the town.

#### INDIA.

New furlough regulations have been issued. The distinction between the sick certificate and the private-affairs furlough has been abolished. Furloughs for two years are allowed without the forfeiture of an appointment. Officers on leave may obtain 50 per cent of their pay and allowances up to a maximum of £1200, and upon a minimum of £250. The aggregate amount of furlough is limited to eight years. The privilege of leave is allowed for sixty days annually without deductions from pay, and officers are allowed to proceed whither they please. The military rules come into operation immediately without reference to England. It is stated that the civil rules have been again referred to Sir Stafford Northcote.

The ship *Alicia* was totally wrecked off Kurrachee on the 20th ult., but the crew were saved.

#### "LA VIANDE DE CHEVAL."

The Paris correspondent of the *Post* writes as follows on the subject of horse, donkey, and mule flesh as articles of food:—

Your readers are aware of the fact that horseflesh, as an article of food, is sold in Paris; but they may not all know that by the side of the noble animal may be met with the flesh of the ass and the mule. I translate the following from a pamphlet, by M. L. A. Bourguin, entitled "La Viande de Cheval."—"Some people are surprised to find the ass and the mule figuring along with other animals in the butchers' shops of Paris. They will be more surprised still when they learn that, according to the unanimous testimony of the members of a committee who have tasted them, the flesh of the mule is better than that of the horse, and the flesh of the ass is better than that of the mule. The ancients recognised their good quality as nutritious substances. We see in the *Georgics* of Virgil that the Romans hunted the wild ass as game; and Pliny tells us that Mecenas, the favourite of Augustus, much relished the flesh of the domestic ass, and that it was he who introduced it as an article of consumption. We know, also, that it was a favourite dish of Chancellor Duprat, and the enormous embonpoint of this Minister of François I. was attributed to the nourishing qualities of this food. How is it that mere prejudice has been so long able to repel from our markets this description of meat, which, like horseflesh, is pleasant to the taste, wholesome for the body, and well adapted to sustain the vigour of man. M. Geoffrey Saint-Hilaire thus explains it:—"As we do nowadays certain Asiatic nations, the ancient peoples of the north and centre of Europe, the Vandals, the Celts, and others subsisted upon milk, blood, and the flesh of their horses. This custom, which prevailed even in the eighth century of our era, was connected with certain religious ceremonies. At their fêtes the sacrifice of the horse was followed by a repast where the flesh of the victim was eaten. The persistence of this pagan custom was a serious obstacle to the propagation of Christianity in these countries. Thus we see Pope Gregory III. enjoining St. Boniface, the apostle of Germania, to prevent by every means this act of idolatry and to declare the flesh of the horse filthy and execrable; and, as the practice continued, Pope Zacharius I. renewed the absolute prohibition. It can easily be understood how the idea of horseflesh being impure has remained rooted in the minds of the populations, although the anathemas against it have been long forgotten, like every measure essentially of a temporal nature. At the present day this prejudice may be said to have almost given way, and the use of this new description of food tends to spread more and more. It is probable that so valuable an article of diet will be no longer neglected by our armies in a campaign, since even in Paris the *boucheries de cheval* are doing an excellent trade."

JURORS.—The inconveniences of special and common juries summoned to attend the law courts at Westminster and Guildhall have been made the subject of inquiry by a Parliamentary Committee. The report, which was issued on Saturday, contains a large number of recommendations, the most important of which are that the overseers should be paid for preparing the lists; that the practice of relieving persons liable to serve as grand juries from the duty of acting as special or common juries ought to be abolished; that no person shall be called a second time until the whole list has been exhausted; that attendance ought not to exceed more than a week at a time; and that the rate of remuneration should be a guinea per day for a special jurymen, and ten shillings for a common one.

THE IRISH CHURCH.—The patronage of two Irish deaneries (those of Limerick and Killalea) has fallen into the hands of the Government, and involved it, no doubt, in an embarrassment of selection from which the passing of Mr. Gladstone's Suspensory Bill would have relieved it. An Irish letter speaks of the Rev. T. Willis, the present Sub-Dean of Limerick, as a possible successor to the deanery of that city. The name of Dr. Reichel, Vicar of Mullingar, and formerly Professor of Latin in Queen's College, Belfast, is also mentioned in this connection. Dr. Reichel is described as one of the most vigorous thinkers and writers and most accomplished scholars in the Irish Church; and his appointment is advocated on the ground that it would add to the too scanty number of the representatives of sound learning among the ecclesiastical dignitaries of Ireland.

MR. HENRY MORLEY has been going over the MS. of the poem which he supposes to be Milton's with the help of Mr. Bond. On the question of handwriting Mr. Morley speaks with deference to the opinion of Mr. Bond as that of an expert, but nevertheless retains his conviction that the writing is that of the poet. About the authorship he has no doubt whatever. Closer examination enables him to supply some emendations. For example, the word "etific," which was a stumbling-block to many people, should be read, it appears, "prolific"; the old contraction for pro was mistaken for the diphthong æ. Archdeacon Denison has entered the lists in defence of the new poem. He thinks it "eminently beautiful, very complete and finished, and worthy in all respects the great name it bears." Professor Morgan, who says he has known of the poem for years, doubts if Milton be the author, though he allows that the piece has merits.

THE MALT TAX.—The Select Committee appointed in the Session of 1867 to inquire into the operation of the malt tax has issued its report. The following is the concluding paragraph:—"Your Committee consider that the result of the evidence taken by them is that the malt tax prevents the farmer from cultivating his land to the greatest advantage; that it obstructs him in the use of a valuable article of food for cattle; that, by making it necessary to employ a large additional amount of capital in the important trade of malting and brewing, it has created and tends to foster two large monopolies; and that, by materially increasing the price of beer, it encourages adulteration, and prevents to a great extent the habit of brewing amongst the labouring classes. Your Committee, carefully reviewing the whole of the evidence before them, are of opinion that the malt tax might be repealed, provided some means for raising the same amount of revenue, if required, be substituted, either in the shape of a brewer's license or some other form."



## THE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM AND CANDIDATES.

### THE PLATFORM.

THE Democratic National Convention at New York, on the 7th inst., accepted the subjoined platform amid great enthusiasm:—  
 "The Democratic party, in National Convention assembled, reposing its trust in the intelligence, patriotism, and discriminating justice of the people, standing upon the Constitution as the foundation and limitation of the powers of the Government and the guarantee of the liberties of the citizen, and recognising the questions of slavery and secession as having been settled for all time to come by the war, or the voluntary action of the Southern States in Constitutional Conventions assembled, and never to be renewed or re-agitated, do, with the return of peace, demand:—

"1. Immediate restoration of all the States to their rights in the Union, under the Constitution, and of civil government to the American people.

"2. Amnesty for all past political offences and the regulation of the elective franchise in the States by their citizens.

"3. Payment of the public debt of the United States as rapidly as practicable; all moneys drawn from the people by taxation, except so much as is requisite for the necessities of the Government economically administered, being honestly applied to such payment, and where the obligations of the Government do not expressly state upon their face, or the law under which they were issued does not provide, that they shall be paid in coin, they ought, in right and in justice, to be paid in the lawful money of the United States.

"4. Equal taxation of every species of property according to its real value, including Government Bonds and other public securities.

"5. One currency for the Government and the people, the labourer and the office-holder, the pensioner and the soldier, the producer and the bondholder.

"6. Economy in the administration of the Government, the reduction of the standing Army and Navy, the abolition of the Freedmen's Bureau, and all political instrumentalities designed to secure negro supremacy; simplification of the system and discontinuance of inquisitorial modes of assessing and collecting internal revenue, so that the burden of taxation may be equalised and lessened, the credit of the Government and the currency made good, the repeal of all enactments for enrolling the State militia into national forces in time of peace, and a tariff for revenue upon foreign imports, and such equal taxation under the internal revenue laws as will afford incidental protection to domestic manufactures, and as will, without impairing the revenue, impose the least burden upon and best promote and encourage the great industrial interests of the country.

"7. Reform of abuses in the Administration, the expulsion of corrupt men from office, the abrogation of useless offices, the restoration of rightful authority to and the independence of the executive and the judicial departments of the Government, the subordination of the military to the civil power, to the end that the usurpations of Congress and the despotism of the sword may cease.

"8. Equal rights and protection for naturalised and native-born citizens at home and abroad, the assertion of American nationality, which shall command the respect of foreign Powers, and furnish an encouragement to people struggling for national integrity, constitutional liberty, and individual rights; and the maintenance of the rights of naturalised citizens against the absolute doctrine of immutable allegiance and the claims of foreign Powers to punish them for alleged crime committed beyond their jurisdiction.

"In demanding these measures and reforms we arraign the Radical party for its disregard of right and the unparalleled oppression and tyranny which have marked its career. After the most solemn and unanimous pledge of both Houses of Congress to prosecute the war exclusively for the maintenance of the Government and the preservation of the Union under the Constitution, it has repeatedly violated that most sacred pledge under which alone was rallied that noble volunteer army which carried our flag to victory.

"Instead of restoring the Union, it has, so far as is in its power, dissolved it and subjected ten States in the time of profound peace to military despotism and negro supremacy. It has nullified the right of trial by jury; it has abolished the habeas corpus, that most sacred writ of liberty; it has overthrown the freedom of speech and the press; it has substituted arbitrary seizures and arrests and military trials and secret Star Chamber inquisitions for the constitutional tribunals; it has disregarded in time of peace the right of the people to be free from searches and seizures; it has entered the post and telegraph offices, and even the private rooms of individuals, and seized their private letters and papers, without any specific charge or notice of affidavit, as required by the organic law; it has converted the American capital into a Bastille; it has established a system of spies and official espionage to which no constitutional monarchy of Europe would now dare resort; it has abolished the right of appeal on important constitutional questions to the supreme judicial tribunal, and threatens to curtail or destroy its original jurisdiction, which is irrevocably vested by the Constitution; while the learned Chief Justice has been subjected to the most atrocious calumnies, merely because he would not prostitute his high office to the support of the false and partisan charges preferred against the President. Its corruption and extravagance have exceeded anything known in history, and, by its frauds and monopolies, it has nearly doubled the burden of the debt created by the war. It has stripped the President of his constitutional power of appointment, even of his own Cabinet. Under its repeated assaults the pillars of the Government are rocking on their base; and, should it succeed in November next and inaugurate its president, we will meet as a subject and conquered people around the ruins of liberty and the scattered fragments of the Constitution.

"And we do declare and resolve that ever since the people of the United States threw off all subjection to the British Crown, the privilege and trust of suffrage have belonged to the several States, and have been granted, regulated, and controlled exclusively by the political power of each State respectively, and that any attempt by Congress, on any pretext whatever, to deprive any State of this right, or interfere with its exercise, is a flagrant usurpation of power which can find no warrant in the Constitution; and if sanctioned by the people will subvert our form of Government, and can only end in a single centralised and consolidated Government, in which the separate existence of the States will be entirely absorbed, and an unqualified despotism be established in place of a federal union of coequal States; and that we regard the Reconstruction Acts (so-called) of Congress as such, as usurpations and unconstitutional, revolutionary and void; that our soldiers and sailors who carried the flag of our country to victory, against a most gallant and determined foe, must ever be gratefully remembered, and all the guarantees given in their favour must be faithfully carried into execution; that the public lands should be distributed as widely as possible among the people, and should be disposed of either under the pre-emption or homestead laws, and sold in reasonable quantities, and to none but actual occupants, at the minimum price established by the Government. When grants of the public lands may be allowed necessary for the encouragement of important public improvements, the proceeds of the sale of such lands, and not the lands themselves, should be so applied. That the President of the United States, Andrew Johnson, in exercising the power of his high office, in resisting the aggressions of Congress upon the constitutional rights of the States and the people, is entitled to the gratitude of the whole American people, and in behalf of the Democratic party we tender him our thanks for his patriotic efforts in that regard. Upon this platform the Democratic party appeal to every patriot, including all the Conservative element, and all who desire to support the Constitution and restore the Union, forgetting all past differences of opinion, to unite with us in the present great struggle for the liberties of the people; and that to all such, to whatever party they may have heretofore

belonged, we extend the right hand of fellowship, and hail all such co-operating with us as friends and brethren."

### THE CANDIDATES.

Horatio Seymour, the Democratic candidate for next President of the United States, is a native of New York State, and is now in the fifty-seventh year of his age. He is a man whose commanding ability is acknowledged by all parties in America. Mr. Seymour has never held office under the Federal Government, and has never been in Congress; but he has served during several Sessions in the New York Legislature, and has been twice Governor of that State. His course as Governor of New York during the period from 1862 to 1865 is known to most English readers. He has not held any office since 1865.

General Francis P. Blair is a member of a family that has for many years been notorious in American politics, the Blairs having always managed to profit by the various political changes that have occurred. Some one or other of the Blairs is always sure to be "right side up" when offices or nominations are to be given by either party. General Blair was a Radical of the Radicals at the beginning of the war, and made effective resistance to the designs of the Governor of his State, who wished to carry Missouri over to the Confederacy. General Blair served throughout the entire struggle, and commanded the 17th Army Corps as Major-General during Sherman's famous march through Georgia and the Carolinas. The war which made so many Radicals seems to have had a contrary effect upon General Blair, for ever since its close he has acted with the Democrats, and has supported Mr. Johnson. He is not without good experience in civil life, having served two terms and part of a third in Congress. He is a lawyer by profession, and is still a young man, being but forty-seven years of age. General Blair's bid for his nomination was a letter written a few days before the Convention assembled, declaring that in his opinion the success of the Democratic party in the presidential contest ought to be followed by the overturning, by force if necessary, of the illegal Radical Government of the Southern States.

### THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AT TRINITY HOUSE.

ON Monday night the Duke of Edinburgh presided at the annual banquet of the Trinity House. Previous to the dinner, his Royal Highness took the usual oath as Master for the year, and the Prince of Wales was sworn in as a "younger brother" of the corporation. At dinner, the Prince of Wales, Prince Louis of Hesse, the Duke of Cambridge, Lord Napier of Magdala, and the Deputy Master sat on the right hand of the chairman, and on his left the Duke of Coburg, Prince Christian, Prince Teck, and Lord Stanley. The guests were about one hundred in number. The Duke, in proposing the health of the Prince and Princess of Wales and the other members of the Royal family, said:—"It is a very great satisfaction to me, on this second occasion of presiding at this dinner, to be again supported by my brother, who, however, on this occasion does so as a new member of the corporation. The Prince of Wales is fond of change, and, having for some time been my elder, is now transformed into my 'younger brother.'" The Prince of Wales, in responding, said:—"I return my best thanks to my illustrious relative for the kind way in which he has proposed this toast, and for coupling with it the health of the Princess of Wales and that of the other members of the Royal family. I am very grateful for the reception which has been accorded him in this room, and I have great pleasure in being here this evening. This is not the first time I have been present at the hospitable board of the Trinity House. It is the second time I have supported my brother; and I come here now in a double capacity, for I have the honour of being present to-day as a member of this corporation and as his 'younger brother.'" I am sure I may say, even in his presence, that it is a source of the greatest satisfaction to me to be present at the first dinner at which he has presided since his return from Australia. I know I am only speaking his wishes when I say that, although the season is now far advanced, he thought, consistently with the duties he had to perform on board the Galatea, now off Osborne, he could not refrain from taking the chair at the anniversary dinner of this ancient corporation, of which he has the honour of being the Master." The Duke of Edinburgh, in proposing the toast of "The Army and Navy," and the Duke of Cambridge, in responding to it, both referred to the presence of Lord Napier of Magdala, and spoke of him in complimentary terms. In responding to the toast of his health, the Royal chairman said that the duties which he had to perform as the Master of that ancient corporation were certainly limited, and consisted mainly in presiding at that dinner; but the interest he took in the working of the corporation and in the performance of its very important duties was very great. "Those duties," he continued, "are so intimately connected with the service to which I have the honour to belong that I cannot help feeling a deep interest in the fact of being Master of so valuable a corporation. Another reason which induces me to feel that interest is that the corporation represents to a great degree the mercantile mariner of the country. Now, if I, by being Master of this corporation, can in any way connect the two services of the Royal Navy and the mercantile marine more closely together, I shall consider that that is an end which it is most desirable to attain. I cannot, in returning thanks for this toast, refrain from alluding for a moment to what the Deputy Master has said respecting the unfortunate occurrence in New South Wales; but I feel confident that the solitary act of one man in that colony need not leave any doubt in the minds of the people of England of the loyalty which exists throughout that distant portion of her Majesty's dominions, and of the love which is felt towards her person and the throne." Lord Stanley returned thanks for the toast of her Majesty's Ministers. His Royal Highness, he said, had told them that this was not a political meeting, and for his (Lord Stanley's) part he thanked Heaven that it was not, for, in point of fact, it was far too hot to talk politics even to a friendly audience. He quite understood that the compliment paid to the Ministry did not in any way express approval of what they had done. But perhaps they would do them the justice to believe that they had honestly and faithfully, according to the measure of their capacity, endeavoured to discharge the arduous, laborious, and responsible duties which devolved upon the Executive Government. If it were not for the notion of being able to do some good in their time and for the gratification of a noble ambition—namely, that of obtaining public respect and esteem—the life of a leading Minister in the House of Commons involved duties so laborious and thankless that no other compensation would induce men to undertake them. The present Ministry had had their turn at the wheel during a time in which the ship was not in smooth water; and, although political contests might be extremely amusing to lookers-on, he assured them that they were more exciting than was quite pleasant to those who were engaged in them. Sir John Pakington proposed, and the Duke of Richmond responded, to the toast of "The Maritime and Commercial Interests of this great Empire;" the Prince of Wales acknowledged the toast of "The Honorary Members;" "British Ships and Seamen" was proposed by Sir Stafford Northcote, and acknowledged by Sir R. Phillimore; and "The Visitors" was briefly responded to by Lord Napier of Magdala.

THE NEW BISHOP FOR NATAL.—The Bishop of Capetown notifies that "the Convocation of Canterbury having declared that 'the Church as a spiritual body may rightfully accept the validity' of the sentence pronounced against Dr. Colenso, and the Government having, after an undue interference with our liberties, admitted our perfect right to consecrate an orthodox Bishop for the faithful clergy and laity in Natal, there is no further legitimate hindrance to the consecration of Mr. Macrorie, who has been elected to the office of Bishop by the Bishop of Grahamstown and myself, as proxies for the Church in communion with the Church of England in Natal. The consecration, therefore, will be proceeded with at the earliest possible period. This matter settled, there is no further call for me to remain in England, and I propose now to return to my diocese." The Bishop of Capetown has guaranteed an income of £600 a year to the Bishop, and this amount has already been promised by subscribers for five years. An association is about to be formed to secure a continuance of the income for five or ten years more.

### ST. ALBAN'S, HOLBORN.

MR. J. G. HUBBARD, M.P., who was the founder of St. Alban's, Holborn, is not unnaturally supposed by many persons to be friendly to the ritual practised there. As this is not so, he has thought it his duty to exonerate himself by publishing a correspondence he has had with the Bishop of London on the subject. This clearly establishes the fact that Mr. Mackonochie has shown no sort of deference to the feelings of his patron. The following is Mr. Hubbard's letter to the Bishop:—

Princes-gate, May 22, 1868.

My Lord Bishop.—On Feb. 21, 1863, upon my requisition as founder, you consecrated the Church of St. Alban, Holborn, committed with its assigned district to the charge of the Rev. Alex. Heriot Mackonochie, from whom I had received an "earnest assurance of his wish to carry on the work in accordance with my desires as far as he possibly could," and of his endeavour "to act as a true and faithful priest of the Church of England with prudence and discretion."

The church was then complete, and (as I believe) furnished with every article necessary for the due and reverent performance of all the services of the Church of England.

From the consecration of the church until this Easter I have held the office of minister's churchwarden, and now, at the close of my official connection, I feel it my duty to present to your Lordship some remarks upon the ornaments of the ministers, the ornaments of the church, and the services performed at St. Alban's.

A notice is posted in front of every seat thus:—"Strangers are very earnestly requested not to disturb the devotions of the congregation by leaving the church in the middle of the communion service," and following out this instruction the minister passes without any pause from the Church Militant Prayer to the exhortation, "Dearly beloved in the Lord, ye that mind to come." The congregation at St. Alban's have apparently accepted the rule laid down for them; only a fraction of them communicate at the mid-day celebration; but hardly any of them leave their seats, and a communicant may be obliged to struggle past five or six non-communicants in going to and in returning from the Lord's table.

Assuredly, the practice enforced at St. Alban's contravenes the rubric, "The communicants being conveniently placed," &c., and, as a devotional act, it is entirely distinct from the Eucharist service of the Church of England.

Previous to the introduction of coloured vestments my co-churchwarden, Mr. Spiller, wrote to consult me upon the propriety of their adoption. I answered, objecting in the strongest terms; but my letter was crossed by another from Mr. Spiller, saying that the incumbent, hearing I had been consulted, took the vestments into immediate use in order to preclude any intervention on my part. Since then the vestments have multiplied, and those worn yesterday were so gorgeous and so cumbersome that the acolytes (released from their former office of thurifers) found employment in following the movements of the assistant priests, and, whenever they knelt down, arranging the extremities of their gold-fringed vestments. Whether the use of these vestments be or be not statutorily legal, it is in my mind highly inexpedient.

In the course of the consecration prayer, and at the consecration of the bread, the celebrant and assistant priests (for they officiated jointly, side by side), paused and knelt, and, after a sensible period, rising again, they proceeded with the consecration of the wine.

This blessing of the consecration prayer is, I believe, wholly unauthorized by any English Liturgy. Every needful action is distinctly prescribed in the rubrical directions, and it cannot be competent for the celebrant to interpolate other ceremonial actions at his discretion. This practice was among others submitted to the adjudication of the Dean of Arches in a recent suit; but the learned Judge, without expressing an opinion upon the lawfulness of the practice, declared that it was one which should not be the object of a criminal prosecution, but ought to be brought before the Ordinary for his personal determination.

I submit this practice therefore to your Lordship, with the petition that you will in your discretion decide whether it be or be not permissible.

It is now five years, my Lord, since I had the painful duty of presenting to you at some length the complaints which I had to urge against the proceedings at St. Alban's. You received them with the utmost kindness and consideration; you submitted them to the perusal of Mr. Mackonochie, and you invited us to leave to your decision (by which we should engage to abide) the matters in contention, including several of those which I have just noticed. Mr. Mackonochie, however, declined the reference to your Lordship, and he declined, also, at successive periods, as I proposed them, references to any ecclesiastical lawyer (whom he should choose)—to his best friend and to his own brother. Unable to accomplish a private and friendly reference, you intimated your readiness to receive a formal presentment from my co-churchwarden and myself. Mr. Spiller, having first agreed, subsequently declined to join in a formal presentment, upon the plea that Mr. Mackonochie had published his intention to abide by the decision of Convocation upon the points under contention.

After the publication of the resolutions on ritual passed by the two Houses of Convocation, I again proposed to Mr. Mackonochie a reference to your Lordship for a decision which should be based upon these resolutions, but Mr. Mackonochie replied that, a suit having been commenced against him in the Arches' Court, he preferred awaiting its result.

The judgment of the Dean of Arches, by condemning the ceremonial use of incense, has removed one of the causes of my dissatisfaction. Incense is no longer used in the services at St. Alban's; but I find no pretence for delaying my petition that you will take into consideration the other matters which I have offered to your Lordship's notice.

At the entrance of St. Alban's stands an alms-chest inscribed "St. Alban's Defence Fund," and I have noticed under the same title public advertisements appealing for funds to meet the cost of legal proceedings. I think I am justified in taking exception to this use of the name of St. Alban's. For St. Alban's Church as I delivered it into the hands of your Lordship I was alone responsible, and such as it then was I would alone have defended it against any hostile proceedings. For the conduct of the services since the day of consecration the Incumbent is alone responsible, and in his own name Mr. Mackonochie should have invoked public sympathy.

I feel bound to say this much, because the terms of these advertisements tend to confirm the general and natural impression that I not only sanctioned, but promoted, the practices which have distinguished the services at St. Alban's. The foundation of that church in the midst of a poor and neglected population was the realisation of long-cherished desires. I desired that the church and its services should be as attractive and edifying as possible to the people of the district; but especially I desired it to be thoroughly in harmony with the system of the Church of England, and to be distinguishable only for the zeal and devotion of its clergy.

I accepted the office of minister's churchwarden, and retained it from year to year, always hoping for the discontinuance of practices which occasioned me grave disquietude; and I relinquish it because I can no longer receive the effective co-operation of my zealous and worthy friend, Mr. Spiller, and because I feel unable to exercise the influence which ought to be attached to such an office.

During all these years, although I privately made known my dissatisfaction to your Lordship, I shrank from giving it any overt expression, for I was especially jealous for Mr. Mackonochie's influence, and was satisfied rather to bear the penalty of being personally misunderstood than to occasion any distrust of him or of his office in the estimation of his people.

You, my Lord, who know the distress my difference of opinion with Mr. Mackonochie has occasioned me, know also the sincere admiration I entertain for his zeal and untiring devotion. I gratefully acknowledge the disinterested, the abundant, and efficacious labours of himself and his Curates, especially among the young, the aged, and the afflicted of his district; but I see no connection between these his meritorious services and the persistent introduction of strange and obsolete practices.

In these days it would be as impolitic as unjust to narrow the liberty of either the clergy or the laity of our Church; but liberty must not degenerate into license. No church, no corporation, no society can exist without order and without law; and it must be decided whether, consistently with order, law, and the uniformity which results from them, individuals can be permitted to act independently of all authority and opinion but their own.

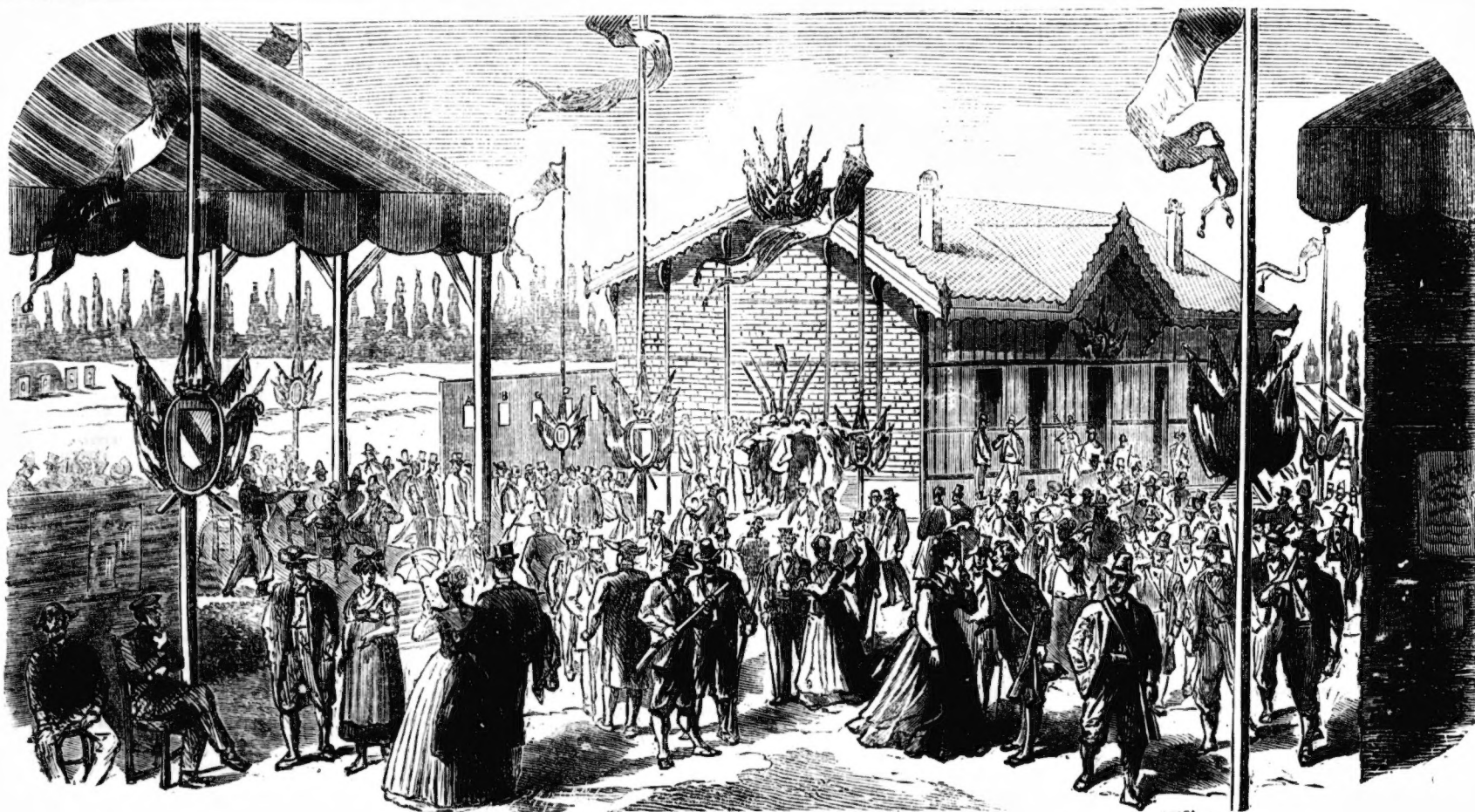
I may not now claim your Lordship's hearing in any official capacity, for I hold none; yet, as founder and patron of St. Alban's, I venture to challenge your sympathy and assistance. The law, by vesting in me the patronage of the benefice, makes me a trustee for the Church of England in general and for the inhabitants of the district in particular, and in that character I approach your Lordship. I complain that Mr. Mackonochie by unauthorised kneelings interrupts the communion service and makes a visible severance in the consecration of the sacrament of the body and blood of Christ; and I pray that you will—if you entertain my complaint—permit it to be brought formally before you, to be dealt with under the authority of the rubric referred to by the Dean of Arches.

As to the other matters which I have reluctantly noticed, I should rejoice to find that my objections have in any instance been misplaced, and I leave them to your Lordship's consideration, anxious only for the order, the harmony, and the well-being of our Church.

The Bishop, in his reply, dated Saturday last, says that as the judgment of the Court of Arches in the prosecution of Mr. Mackonochie has been appealed against, he can take no steps pending the final decision. He adds:—

I have for some time past been of opinion, and have taken public occasion to express my opinion, that the evils of excessive ritualism, which at present gives so much distress to many attached members of the Church of England, cannot be remedied unless, either by the decision of the courts or by fresh legislation, some new method is secured for the exercise of controlling power on the part of the Ordinary.





INTERNATIONAL SHOOTING-MATCH AT STRASBURG: ENTRANCE TO THE TARGET-GROUND,

**INTERNATIONAL RIFLE CONTEST AT STRASBURG.**

THE queer border-town of Strasburg—where so many of us have wandered about, looking at the wonders of the cathedral as we waited for the train to carry us on the long journey to Paris; the familiar town which is noted alike for *pâtés de foie gras* and savoury sausage; the warlike town whence, recently, reports have emanated of an imminent rupture between the representatives of France and Germany, who are popularly but erroneously supposed to grin defiance at each other from either end of the bridge—has just been the scene of a really military demonstration, but one of an entirely pacific character. The Rifle Association of Strasburg was originally organised on the plan of the Vosges sharpshooters, but has recently been reconstituted as a private society, in order to avoid the consequences of the order issued by the Minister of War commanding that the members should be enrolled in the National Guard. This reorganisation has been the occasion of a grand fête, of which we publish some illustrations, and the success of which has been as complete as could have been desired. Twenty-eight societies responded to the call of the committee, some of them French, and others belonging to various nationalities. From fifty leagues distance they assembled to take part in the great inter-

national contest, at the shooting-ground of the society at L'Ile des Epis, opposite Kehl, and near the permanent bridge of the Rhine. An elegant pavilion, one of the extremities of which was decorated with the trophies and prizes, received the candidates, who for four days increased in number, till 700 aspirants were engaged in firing at the ten butts set up for the occasion. There were six series of prizes, and nothing could have been better managed than the whole affair. The contest established the superiority of the marksmen of Lorraine and the Badois, and their triumph was celebrated by the band of the 6th Regiment, which took the prize at the great Orphéonic concourse of Paris, and gave spirit and "go" to the proceedings by its stirring concerts.

**THE FIRE AT THE PARIS MARKETS.**

IN our last week's Number it was mentioned that a great fire had occurred at the Halles, or central markets, of Paris. The destruction caused was very great, and, the locality having since been visited by thousands of spectators, curious revelations have come before the public. The poultry section, which is underground, is one of the best worth visiting. Against the walls are ranges of monster baskets filled with fowls, whose shrill cries form anything but an agreeable concert. The men whose business it is to put a

period to the misery these wretched birds endure while confined in this subterranean "black hole," waiting to be sold, are expected to kill sixty fowls per hour. The quantities of feathers produced by this hecatomb of winged bipeds is something prodigious. They are sold at 2f. a pound. On four marble tables in this underground store 200,000 chickens, and as many ducks and pigeons, are immolated per month. The fish market is plentifully supplied with water, the centre being an immense reservoir, from which spring three fountains. The reservoir is covered over and divided into thirty-six compartments, which open and shut like the top of a secretaire. Each fishwoman can thus keep her fish under lock and key by hiring one of these compartments.

Our illustration shows the state of the cellars after the conflagration had been subdued and while the extent of the damage done was in course of being ascertained.

**THE QUEEN OF MOHELI.**

A DISTINGUISHED visitor, whose Portrait we present to our readers, is just now creating some sensation in Paris, whither she has gone from Havre, after visiting the International Exhibition: no less a personage, in fact, than Fatouma—or, rather, Djombé Fatouma—Queen of Moheli or Mohilla, one of the group of four



INTERNATIONAL SHOOTING-MATCH AT STRASBURG: THE RETURN TO TOWN BY TORCHLIGHT.



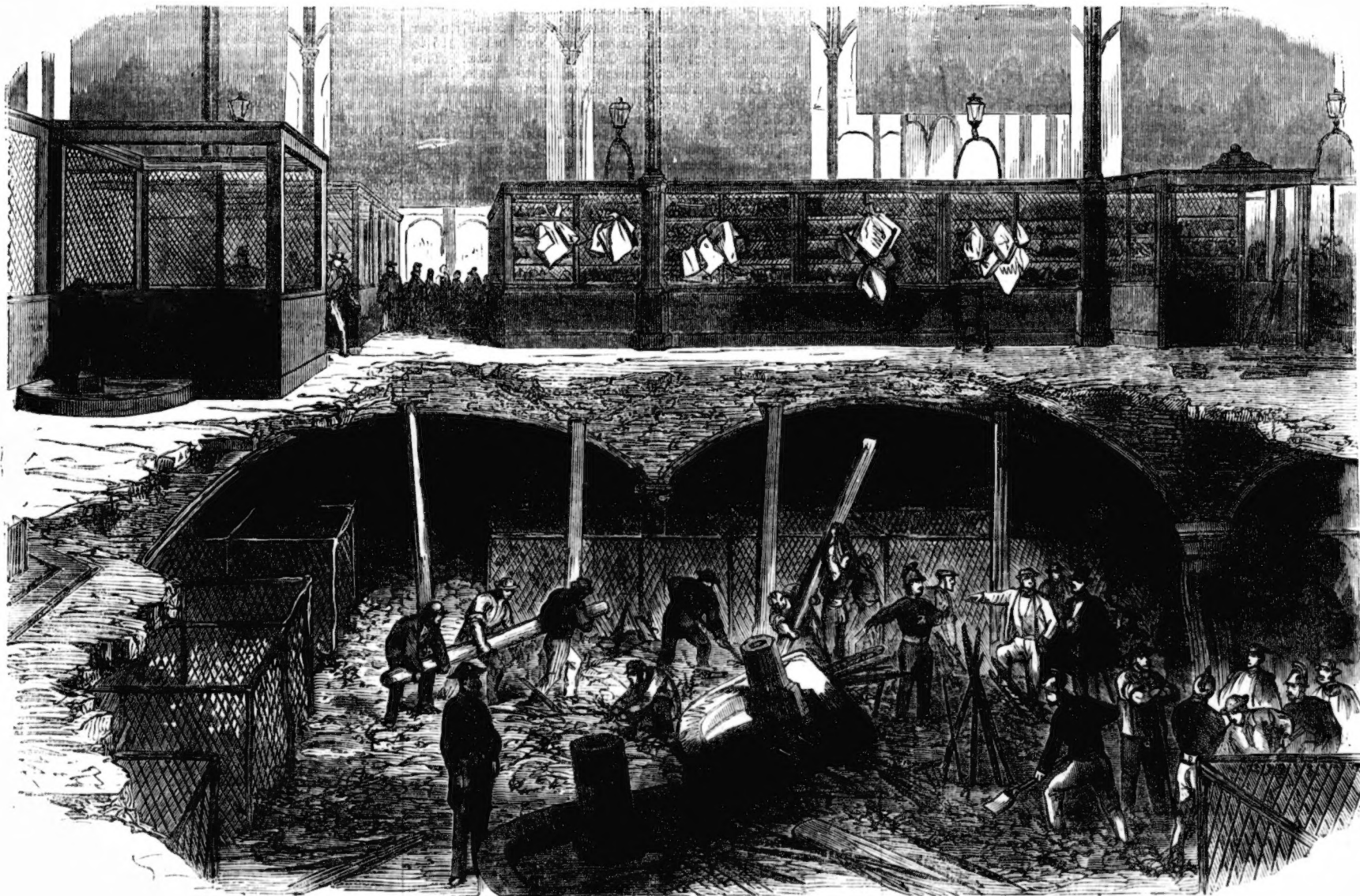


THE QUEEN OF MOHELLI AND SUITE.

islands called the Comoro Isles, lying in the Indian Ocean midway between the northern point of Madagascar and the eastern coast of Africa. These four islands are named Comoro, Mohilla, Mayotta, and Johanna, and are so high that they may be seen at a distance of from fifty to sixty miles. The inhabitants are Mohammedans, descendants of Arabs incorporated with Africans, and the principal island, if not the group, is of a volcanic character, the extreme scarcity of water frequently compelling the inhabitants to allay their own thirst, as well as that of their cattle, with the milk of the cocoanuts which abound in the islands. The "little Queen," as she is called, who rules over Mohilla has made the journey to Europe in order to arrange a quarrel which arose some time ago between her Majesty and the commander of a French frigate. It seems probable, however, that the Queen will

set a new fashion, for she is no savage curiosity; she speaks French tolerably, and understands European customs, including the wearing of boots, which are very troublesome to her. The costume of the Royal lady recalls some of those ancient garments which the researches of antiquaries have discovered as belonging to the old dynastic families of the first ages of the world. The jewels she wears are of the most ancient type; and the ear is pierced in the manner of the Egyptian Princesses—as the ear of Pharaoh's daughter was probably pierced—the entire rim of the ear being set with precious stones. The outer costume consists of a tunic of cloth of gold, a peplum of the same ornamented with diamonds and valuable jewels. Her Majesty is thirty-one years of age, and has been twice married—first, at fourteen years old, to an old Arab, the father of the Sultan of Zanzibar. Of her three children the eldest

is appointed Governor of Mohilla during the Queen's absence. The island is, in fact, under the protection of France; but the Queen has four Ministers, and a General commanding 1500 soldiers, armed and accoutred in European style. She reviews this army herself to the music of guitars, fifes, and drums. Carriages drawn by horses are unknown at Mohilla, the usual mode of conveyance for persons of distinction being a palanquin borne by slaves—slaves meaning simply the lower orders, or servants, for at Mohilla everybody but the Queen is a slave, including the four Ministers and the General; and the island itself belongs entirely to the Queen, and is a magnificent estate, full of beautiful flowers and fruits, and with those easy methods of existence which, at first sight, seem so fascinating, but are generally discovered to involve worse calamities than hard work and less luxuriant fertility.



FIRE AT THE PARIS CENTRAL HALLES: THE CELLARS AFTER THE CONFLAGRATION.



## INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—No. 341.

## FIGHT ON THE METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET BILL.

IN our last article we told our readers that the House of Commons was, in prospect of dismissal, getting dull and lifeless. Since we wrote it has revived wonderfully: has, indeed, got to be quite lively, energetic, vigorous, and, at times, turbulent—more like a young House of Commons than one doomed and on the brink of death. Witness the scene we had on Friday week between two and three o'clock in the morning. The subject under discussion was the Metropolitan Cattle Market Bill, brought in some weeks ago by Lord Robert Montagu—a bill to prevent cattle plague by isolating foreign cattle, say the Vice-President and the county gentlemen; bill to protect English cattle and raise the price of meat, allege the freetraders. Disraeli, it is said, does not much care for this bill, and was minded to withdraw it; pleading want of time. But the county gentlemen, suspecting this, got a round-robin signed and presented to the Prime Minister imploring him not to prorogue Parliament till this bill should become law; whereupon the Premier's flagging zeal woke up into life; and now it is decided, so says rumour, that the bill is to be pushed through if the operation should prolong the Session a week, which it is very likely to do. The bill passed through its first and second readings without much difficulty; but when motion was made that Mr. Speaker do leave the chair, it met with the staunchest opposition. Once said motion was talked out, Mr. Milner Gibson heading the army of talkers; and on Thursday night week it was determined again to talk it out, if possible; but, as we shall see, this was not possible. It was at a morning sitting that this motion was first made, when the House opened at two and could not sit after seven. Time being thus limited, given the requisite number of talkers with sufficient wind and toughness of lungs, the work of talking out is not difficult. But on Thursday the time was not limited. The House, if it had so determined, might have sat on till every member had sunk down with sheer exhaustion. It did sit till the sun rose and looked through the windows, and at one time so obstinate and defiant were the combatants that it seemed as if Mr. Lucas, the keeper of the restaurant, would have to rouse up his staff of waiters and provide breakfasts for us all. When the time is not limited, the only way in which an obnoxious measure can be got rid of for the night is by moving the adjournment of the debate or of the House. If the House should agree to either one or the other of said motions, of course the obnoxious measure is got out of the way for the time; if not, of course not. But if the motion for adjournment fail, another can be made, because the motion is in this form "that the House do now adjourn," and, if the House decide in the negative, all it decides is that the House do not now adjourn. It has been ruled, though, that a second motion for adjournment cannot be made without some intermediate proceeding. It is the custom, therefore, in these struggles to get over this difficulty in this way—viz., to move that the debate be now adjourned, and that the House do now adjourn alternately. No member who has spoken in the debate can move an adjournment of it. But, curious enough, when the motion is made, members who have already spoken in the debate upon the original question may speak on the motion for adjournment.

## MR. BAZLEY.

Mr. Bazley, of Manchester, began the fight. It was long past midnight, and he, pointing to the clock, moved that the debate be now adjourned; but there was an amendment to the original question, proposed by Mr. Milner Gibson; and, at the request of his friends around, Mr. Bazley, to get this amendment settled, withdrew his motion. But as soon as Mr. Gibson's amendment was, on a division, rejected, Mr. Bazley again moved that the debate be now adjourned. Mr. Bazley is a very quiet, modest, orderly man. He does not often speak, but when he does he always gets the ear of the House. He is no orator; indeed, he makes no pretensions to oratory. He is just a clear-headed, sensible, working member, whom Nature has endowed with the ability to utter his thoughts in plain and simple language, with gentlemanly propriety and ease. He is a cotton-spinner and manufacturer; but, this notwithstanding, there is not a more gentlemanly man in the House than Mr. Bazley. We express ourselves in this way because, though we have in the House many examples of gentlemanly manufacturers, there is still an opinion prevalent in some circles that a manufacturer, especially a cotton-spinner, must be vulgar. Nothing, though, can be more contrary to fact than this. It is true that there are vulgar manufacturers—some excessively vulgar, and even coarse; but we have few, if any, of this class in the House. It is also true that the gentlemen in the aristocratic classes have something about them which manufacturers, and many besides, do not possess. Some say it is polish; but we should rather call it lacquer or varnish, or at best French polish; but, whatever it may be, it is not essential to the true gentleman. This, however, by the way.

## FREE TRADERS DEFEATED.

There was a long discussion upon Mr. Bazley's motion. At last the division came, and the motion was defeated by 155 to 55. This was a large majority, but it did not frighten the opposition. Fifty-five, at this work of perseverance, could in the end beat any number of opponents. As soon as the division was announced, Mr. Cowen got up and moved the adjournment of the House; whereupon Mr. Disraeli rose and, having expressed a hope that the House was "not going to embark on a barren and desultory conflict," announced that he would not resist the motion; and he hoped that we should be allowed to go home. But it was not to be. The leader of the House recommended the majority to assent to the adjournment; but this they refused to do. So far from being inclined to do this, when Colonel Jervis exclaimed, in defiant tone, "We mean to go into Committee, and we will do so if we are to continue walking round the lobby till to-morrow," his defiance was received with loud cheering by the 155. We are in for a struggle, then? Yes, for listen to old Mr. Cowen:—"In answer to that threat, I tell the hon. and gallant member that we are quite ready to sit here till to-morrow." That is, till Sunday, remember. The House again divides, and now the numbers are 131 to 38. Some of the members, you see, have slunk away to bed, Disraeli and Gladstone amongst them. As soon as this division was announced, Mr. Cheetham, the member for Salford, appeared on the field, and moved the adjournment of the debate, and almost immediately the House divided, when the numbers were 130 against 30. Here is a decrease of eight members in the Opposition; but, no matter, thirty will do as well as thirty-eight, if their hearts do not fail them. Once again the adjournment of the House was moved and a division taken, with this result—ayes, 31; noes, 132: being an increase of one to the ayes and two to the noes. This did not look much like flinching, and Lucas's breakfast became a probability. But here the war ended, not because the combatants were exhausted, for their blood was up, and they seemed as fresh as ever; but, on a plea of mercy to the Speaker put in by Lord Gailway, the Opposition relented. And, when we come to think of it, it was a plea that could not without discourtesy be resisted, for Mr. Speaker had sat in that chair at the morning sitting four hours, at the night sitting nearly nine hours, making altogether almost thirteen hours. Thirteen hours—head heavily thatched with horsehair—thermometer at nearly eighty! Is not this hard work for an elderly gentleman verging on three score and ten? Truly, it would have been cruel to have kept him in the chair longer.

## BEHIND THE SCENES.

And now for a bit of real Inner Life—a peep at the "veils within veils," as old Weller has it. Our readers will naturally ask how it was that the Government had such a majority. The answer is, many of the country gentlemen on the Opposition side voted with the Government. Secondly, the Irish and Scotch members also, to a man, supported the bill or kept away. Why? do you ask. Why, because Ireland and Scotland send us a vast quantity of beef, and the more the importation of cattle is restricted

the higher will the price of said Irish and Scotch beef rise. Colonel Sykes, the member for Aberdeen, told us that he believed that the bill would protect the country against being compelled to eat diseased meat; and, in the interest of the country, he supported the bill. Well, the gallant Colonel is an honest man; but was this really his only motive? Had he no thought of the Aberdonian graziers and butchers who send such vast quantities of beef to the London market? Lord Robert Montagu tells us that there is nothing of protection in this bill; but the Irish and Scotch members think there is. Their unanimity in supporting it proclaims, and in private very many of them confess, it. "It's a bad bill," said an Irish member in our hearing, "but I must support it, because my constituents have got it into their heads that it will raise the price of their stock."

## COLONEL NORTH AND GLADSTONE.

On this occasion the Conservatives won the victory. On Tuesday morning last we had, on the same subject, a fiercer struggle, which ended in a Liberal triumph. On Friday morning last week the House got into Committee on this Metropolitan Cattle Market Bill; nothing, though, was done in Committee. On Monday night, about 11.30, or it might be twelve, this bill was called, and Mr. Speaker at once, without opposition—no opposition being allowable in such cases—slipped out of his chair, and Mr. Dodson took his place at the table. The first question was that the preamble be postponed—as preambles always are, until all the clauses are considered. Usually, this question is agreed to in silence; but the dislike felt by the members for large cities and towns to this bill is so strong that they determined to contest every inch of ground, and so they took the unusual, though quite constitutional, course of fighting against the postponement of the preamble. The debate was long, but, on the whole, not very exciting. There was, though, a small epical set-to between Colonel North—of whom Bright had once said that he was "ambitious of military, or rather militia, glory"—and Mr. Gladstone. Colonel North, as he sat there listening to the speeches, waxed wrathful, and in an evil moment he sprang up and charged the hon. member for South Lancashire with having led on the last obstructive opposition. This was not true. Gladstone and Disraeli both left the House before the real struggle began. Gladstone is not the man to take coolly such a charge as this; and, as soon as the gallant Colonel had sat down, our ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer rose, and planted on the nob—to use a pugilistic phrase—of the angry and impetuous Colonel one or two very hard blows. We should like to describe at length this set-to, but time and space fail. Sufficient to say that, though he was lustily cheered by his supporters, the gallant Colonel clearly had the worst of it. Indeed, how could it be otherwise? The gallant Colonel is a feeble person, though not devoid of pluck of the explosive sort; and, moreover, possesseth not the smallest rhetorical skill; whilst Gladstone is, as we all know, especially when he is angry (as he was on this occasion), what the ring would call an awkward customer. The gallant Colonel had one advantage, however, as he always has. He was clothed in the triple brass of self-conceit; and we should not be surprised to hear that whilst all present saw that he was worsted in the encounter, he went home fancying that he had conquered.

## ANOTHER STRUGGLE.

This episode over, the debate on the preamble flowed on with tolerable smoothness, and about midnight suddenly stopped. The postponement of the preamble was then agreed to without a division, as was the first clause—one short little clause; and on clause two, for an hour or so, the Committee was not disorderly, but listened to Milner Gibson's long and able speech on the subject of excluding sheep from the operation of the clause with decorous attention. But at one o'clock Mr. Watkin moved that the Chairman do report progress, and, in spite of an appeal from the Premier, refused to withdraw his motion, and then the fight was renewed. Having described at length the fight of Saturday morning, it would be useless to describe this, which was as like the former as one pea is to another, except that on this occasion the Conservatives were still more excited than they were on the former, and still more obstinate. When the question that the Chairman do report progress was put, the "Ayes" were but feeble; but the shouts of "No" were so loud, and were given with such precision, that they sounded like a volley by a well-drilled regiment of troops of the Line. One gentleman, though, on more than one occasion, rather broke the effect of the volley by prolonging his "No" thus, at the top of his voice, "No-o-o-o-o-h!" like a squib, with a bang at the end, to our great amusement.

## CONSERVATIVE INSURRECTION.

And now for a scene, or scenes, the like of which probably never occurred before. Mr. Watkin's motion was defeated by 195 to 37, so strong and compact was the Conservative phalanx. This done, Mr. Locke moved an amendment, leading to debate, in the midst of which Lord John Manners proposed that the House should divide on this amendment, *pass the clause*, and then report progress. A division took place upon the amendment, and it was lost. Then Mr. S. Lefevre moved that the chairman do report progress; and Mr. Goschen, having understood that the noble Lord had promised that progress should be reported after the division—which he certainly did not—claimed the fulfilment of the promise. But, as there was this misunderstanding, the Chancellor of the Exchequer recommended that the motion should be allowed to pass. The whole Conservative party behind rebelled against this proposed treaty of peace, and you should have heard the vehement shout of "No!" which came from the angry rebels when the question was put! Here was a dilemma for Mr. Hunt. Disraeli was gone; the Chancellor of the Exchequer was now leader of the House. What ought he to do? For a minute or so he seemed to be persuading his colleagues to vote with him for the motion, but not with much success as it appeared, for when the members marched out part of the Government went one way and part the other. This schism, though, had a marked effect upon the division. Many of the Conservatives went away, and the numbers now were—ayes, 36; noes, 91. Forty Conservatives had departed since the division on Watkin's motion. This over, Lord John Manners rose and recommended peace; but the remaining Conservatives were still obstinate and angry, and insisted upon another division; and now, shamed by the schism in the last division, the members of the Government marched out of the House in a body. The numbers were 33 against 19. This was a terrible falling off, and proved that the phalanx was effectually broken. After this division, the Ministerial bench was empty. In a minute, though, Sir John Pakington glided in, and was received with cheers and laughter. He had not voted. He was paired, and could not vote. He came to hold out the olive-branch; and this time, after some little discussion, peace was accepted by the Conservatives; not, though, without much angry grumbling. Mr. Ayrton moved that progress be reported. And now there came out few cries of "No!" and they were faint, like mutterings after a storm; and when the question was again put, ceased altogether, and the fight was over, and the Conservatives this time were defeated. Strange scenes these, and worthy of comments, if we had but space to comment. After this there was a collapse. But several orders of the day were got on a stage, and, amongst them, the Appropriation Bill went through Committee. Happy omen! We cleared off with the members; but we looked in half an hour afterwards and saw this sight—Mr. Speaker putting a motion with only member—to wit, Mr. Solater-Booth, the Financial Secretary—present. Of course, it was passed unanimously.

BUNNETT AND CO. (Limited), New-works Works, Deptford, announce, in the newspapers, that they have received the following threatening notice:—"Messrs. Bunnett and Co. (Limited), July 15, 1868. Gentlemen,—We have to inform you that a resolution has been passed condemning the system of piece-work as most objectionable to trades unions, and after the ensuing month, should you attempt to deviate from the tenour of this intimation, you must bear the consequences. Yours respectfully, FROM THE GENERAL SECRET COMMITTEE."

## Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JULY 17.  
HOUSE OF LORDS.

## THE CORONATION OATH AND THE IRISH CHURCH.

Lord REDESDALE took occasion, in moving an address for a copy of the Coronation Oath, to observe that the deprivation of the Irish Church of the property which it had held for so long a period was such a violation of all law and equity as to justify the term of "sacrilege" which he had used in relation to it in a recent debate.

## THE RESERVE FORCES.

Lord TRURO called attention to the condition of the reserve forces, and, whilst inquiring of the Government whether any scheme had been prepared for their organisation, contended that the volunteer force was not utilised as it might be if it was to be considered a real national defence, especially as regarded the several artillery corps, which were most unwisely neglected by the Horse Guards.

The Earl of LONGFORD stated that two Acts of Parliament had been framed to carry out the scheme devised by General Peel; and, when they were in full operation, there would be a reserve force of 300,000 men in the country; and the Colonels inspecting the militia, pensioners, and volunteers, who had most ably done their duty, were no longer of sufficient rank to take charge of such a body, which had now been placed under a general officer.

## THE BLOCKADE OF MAZATLAN.

Lord DENHAM having inquired whether it was true that a British ship of war was engaged in blockading the Mexican port of Mazatlan.

Lord MALMESBURY replied that the only details he was acquainted with were those which had been copied from the American papers, as to the accuracy of which their Lordships must judge for themselves. All that the Government had heard officially was a telegraphic message of July 4, to the effect that an outrage having been committed upon British subjects, or British seamen, he did not know which, the naval Captain in command had taken upon himself to stop the entrance to Mazatlan, an act which he had no right to perform under ordinary circumstances, though circumstances might arise to justify a breach of the law. On the 10th inst. the Admiralty received a telegram from Vice-Admiral Hastings stating that he had sent orders to the Captain to raise the blockade, and this was all he had heard on the subject.

## ORDERS OF THE DAY.

The Bankruptcy Act Amendment Bill was passed through Committee, after the introduction of a few amendments at the instance of the Lord Chancellor; and the Revenue Officers' Disabilities Removal Bill and the West Indies Bill were read the third time and passed.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## CORRUPT PRACTICES AT ELECTIONS BILL.

The House devoted a fourth morning sitting to the consideration of the Election Petitions and Corrupt Practices at Elections Bill; but, prior to going into Committee, dispatched two or three orders that were unopposed. Mr. SOLATER-BOOTH, replying to Mr. T. Hughes, stated that the Treasury had not sanctioned the tax-collectors of the south of London in issuing notices that, unless assessed taxes due on March 20 last were paid on or before July 20, the person neglecting to pay would be disqualified from voting at the coming election.

The House having gone into Committee on the bill, Lord AMBERLEY moved to amend the clause inflicting a penalty on candidates for the employment of corrupt agents, by declaring such candidates incapable of being elected to and of sitting in the House of Commons during the three years next after the trial of the petitions or the report of the Judge thereon; but the amendment was rejected, on a division, by 115 to 48. The next contested subject was the new clause brought up by Mr. DISRAELI, providing for the payment of the additional Judges and the remuneration of Judges on the election petition rota for the discharge of the duties under the bill. Mr. MONK was successful in carrying, by a majority of 27, or by 123 to 96, a proposal to strike out that portion of the clause which would have entitled each of the Judges on the rota to a sum of £500, in addition to his ordinary salary. The clause of the Premier, defining the period and duration of the bill, underwent some discussion, from which it emerged in the following form:—"That this Act shall be in force until the expiration of three years from its passing, and to the end of the next Session of Parliament. A clause, moved by Sir W. HUTT, interdicting Peers of Parliament, whether spiritual or temporal, from interfering in elections on pain of being guilty of misdemeanour, was opposed by Mr. DISRAELI; and, after some discussion, in the course of which Mr. AYTON proclaimed the doctrine, amid ironical cheering, that if Peers were allowed to vote at elections there was no longer any necessity for a House of Lords, the clause was withdrawn. And a clause moved by Mr. GRIFFITH, providing that payments defined by former Acts to be illegal should be regarded as bribery, was negatived.

## GREENWICH HOSPITAL.

Mr. B. COCHRANE directed attention to the report on Greenwich Hospital. He contended that according to the Act of 1696, under which the hospital was founded, all persons, whether belonging to the Royal Navy or the mercantile marine, had a claim on the institution, not only for themselves but for their widows and children. The hospital was capable of sheltering 3600 persons, but the number of inmates was only 410. Then with regard to the claims of the mercantile marine, the total sum contributed by the men of that service to the hospital in past times amounted to £2,600,000, and yet they were not allowed to participate in its benefits. This constituted a crying injustice which he was persuaded neither Parliament nor the country would sanction.

Mr. DUCANE asserted that the object of the Government was to combine, as far as possible, economy of administration with the utmost efficiency in promoting the welfare of those for whom the hospital was founded. To return to the hospital as described in the charter of William and Mary would not, he thought, be suitable to modern times. On the other hand, the Government had no desire to return to the state of things which existed prior to 1865. Although it was recommended that the hospital should be refitted to a certain extent, there was no wish to revive a system under which a sailor in the Royal Navy was forced, *volens volens*, to become an inmate, and of course to be separated from his wife and family, and embrace a life which might be regarded as one of monastic seclusion. Whatever might be the actual wording of the original charter, he held that the object of the founders must have been to establish a refuge for seamen of the Royal Navy and of the mercantile service who might be maimed or wounded in action, and not for the vast body of merchant seamen who had never served the Crown in any sense whatever.

Mr. CHILDERS vindicated the part which he had taken in effecting changes in the hospital, and warned the Government against embarking in the policy propounded by Mr. Cochrane, which he described as retrogressive.

SATURDAY, JULY 18.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## IRON FORTIFICATIONS.

The House held an extraordinary sitting on Saturday, when Mr. O'BRIEN seized the opportunity given by the second reading of the annual Appropriation Bill to enunciate his views on the recent experiments with the Plymouth breakwater shield, which he regarded as signal failure, involving a great waste of public money. He also adverted to the successful trial a day or two previously of the Millwall target; and called upon the Government to give him an assurance that further expenditure on iron fortifications should be suspended until the report of the trials Committee showed that we had attained the highest degree of perfection that our present scientific knowledge would enable us to reach.

Sir J. PAKINGTON regretted that he was not then in a position to give the hon. member so distinct and decided an answer as he was likely to be able to do in the course of a few days. The experiments with the Plymouth target had been conducted under the superintendence of a Committee, from whom he expected to receive a full report as to the results; but until that was in his possession, it would be impossible for him to come to a conclusion with regard to the course which it might be his duty to take. As to the trial with the Millwall target, also, it would be premature at that moment to pronounce an opinion; but, judging from the reports which had appeared in the newspapers, he had reason to believe that the shield had stood the fire to which it was exposed extremely well. He readily conceded that the result of these experiments imposed upon the Government a heavy responsibility with regard to expenditure, and he should certainly not decide on taking any particular course without giving the fullest consideration to the reports of the Committee.

## CORRUPT PRACTICES BILL.

The House once more went into Committee on the Election Petitions and Corrupt Practices Bill.

Sir F. GOLDSMID proposed the addition of a clause to the effect that whenever any candidate should be reported to have been, by himself or agents, guilty of bribery or treating, all votes given for him should be deemed thrown away, but that no other candidate should be deemed to have been duly elected in consequence thereof unless at least one third of the registered electors entitled to vote at the election should have voted for such candidate.

The clause was opposed by the SOLICITOR-GENERAL on the ground that it would operate unjustly on constituencies by punishing the majority for the corrupt conduct of the minority. Upon a division it was negatived by 79 to 48.

A clause moved by Mr. FAWCETT, providing for the payment of the returning officer's expenses out of the rates of the county or borough, was opposed by Mr. Disraeli and supported by Mr. Gladstone. Its second reading was ultimately agreed to by 78 to 69; and subsequently it was ordered, by 84 to 76, to stand part of the bill.

Mr. CLAY proposed a clause requiring a declaration to be made at the table by members that they had not been, and would not be, knowingly, directly or indirectly, accessories to bribery, treating, or other illegal practices, and visiting with a penalty of £500 and costs of suit the taking of a



false declaration to that effect. The clause led to a short debate, followed by a division, when it was defeated by the decisive majority of 85 to 45.

Mr. DISRAELI then appealed to hon. members who had given notice of other new clauses to allow the bill to pass through Committee, and make their proposals on the report. The suggestion was acceded to, and the preamble having been agreed to, the bill was ordered to be reported to the House on Wednesday next.

#### MONDAY, JULY 20. HOUSE OF LORDS.

The LORD CHANCELLOR announced that, having forwarded to Sir R. Napier (now Lord Napier of Magdala) the thanks of their Lordships for the distinguished services rendered by himself and the officers and men of the navy and army engaged in the Abyssinian campaign, he had now received a reply from the noble Lord acknowledging the vote and expressing his high appreciation of the honour conferred upon himself and the forces under his command.

The Public Schools Bill, from the Commons, was read the second time on the motion of the Earl of Derby, and after some conversation, in which Lords Clarendon, Stratford de Redcliffe, Chichester, and Malmesbury took part. Progress was then made with a large number of bills.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS. THE CORRUPT PRACTICES BILL.

Mr. W. E. FORSTER interrogated the Prime Minister with reference to the rumour that he intended again to challenge the decision of the House—twice pronounced—in favour of the clause which Mr. Fawcett has added to the Elections Petitions and Corrupt Practices at Elections Bill.

Mr. DISRAELI, with some asperity, pronounced the question to be unpatriotic and unnecessary.

Mr. GLADSTONE asked whether, if the Government made up its mind to interfere with the decision of the House, due notice would be given of its intention in this respect.

Mr. DISRAELI replied that he should not think of proposing an amendment without proper Parliamentary notice.

#### REGISTRATION (IRELAND) BILL.

There was an animated debate on the Registration (Ireland) Bill.

Sir C. O'LOGHLEN commented on the extraordinary manner in which the bill had been introduced, the second reading having had to be suddenly postponed because it was found that the bill had not been printed; while it made such material changes in the law of Ireland with regard to polling-places that Irish members who had left for their constituencies were compelled to hurry back to watch its progress.

There was a considerable unanimity in the discussion of the clauses until clause 36, which had reference to the polling-places, was brought forward. Sir C. O'LOGHLEN moved its rejection, and was successful by a majority of 10. Lord MAYO was indignant with the vote, and Mr. FORSTER, with some spirit, answered his attack. Ultimately the bill passed through Committee, and the Chairman was ordered to report it as amended.

#### METROPOLITAN FOREIGN CATTLE MARKET BILL.

The House having gone into Committee on the Metropolitan Foreign Cattle Market Bill, Mr. CRAWFORD made an appeal to the Government to withdraw the bill and bring it forward in the next Session. Mr. DISRAELI declined to accede to the request, and the Committee proceeded to discuss the remaining clauses.

#### TUESDAY, JULY 21. HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House, during its sitting of an hour and a half, forwarded several bills a stage, including Sir Robert Napier's Annuity Bill, the Municipal Elections (Scotland) Bill, and the Public Departments Payments Bill, which were passed through Committee, and the Burials (Ireland) Bill, which was read the third time and passed. The Bank Holidays and Bills of Exchange Bill was withdrawn by the Marquis of Salisbury.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The principal business had reference to the Electric Telegraphs Bill. On going into Committee,

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER briefly gave the history of the negotiations which had taken place, and defended the action of the Government. He quoted figures to show that while the total charge would not amount to more than £6,000,000, the capitalised value of the telegraphs might fairly be represented by a sum of £8,000,000. It was not proposed that the Post Office should enjoy a legal monopoly; therefore its possessing a practical monopoly would depend upon the manner in which it conducted the business. He laid emphasis upon the approval which the witnesses examined on behalf of the newspapers had given to the scheme, and assured the House that ample precautions had been taken to ensure that on the transmission of messages there should be no violation of secrecy.

In the interesting and somewhat lengthy debate which ensued, considerable difference of opinion was expressed. Mr. GOSCHEN and Mr. GLADSTONE both approved of the principle of the bill, while warmly criticising some of its details, especially in respect to the financial arrangements. On the other hand, the bill was energetically opposed by Mr. LEEMAN and Mr. LEYSEON GOWER.

The House went into Committee on the measure, and sat till a late hour.

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 22. HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### WITHDRAWAL OF BILLS.

The order for the commitment of the Oxford and Cambridge Universities Bill was discharged, and the bill withdrawn. The order for the second reading of the Local Officers' Superannuation (Ireland) (No. 2) Bill was discharged, and the bill withdrawn. Mr. Hubbard's Church-rates Regulation Bill was postponed to Wednesday, amidst laughter, which greatly increased on hearing the proposition that followed, to postpone Mr. Newdegate's Church-rates Commutation Bill for a fortnight.

##### CORRUPT PRACTICES AT ELECTIONS BILL.

Mr. DISRAELI, in answer to a question, explained that the Government did not decide upon making a proposal to rescind Mr. Fawcett's clause until the bill was printed, and before putting a notice to that effect on the paper they communicated their intention to the gentlemen enjoying the confidence of the parties opposite. The right hon. gentleman announced that the Government, having resolved to extend the Election Petitions and Corrupt Practices at Elections Bill to Ireland, had laid the necessary alterations on the table, chiefly of a technical kind, to effect their object. The Lord Advocate, he added, had placed a clause on the paper to extend the bill to Scotland.

This announcement subsequently elicited an expression of approval from Mr. M'LAREN. Sir COLMAN O'LOGHLEN confirmed the statement of the Prime Minister that the alterations made with reference to Ireland were merely of a technical character. After some general conversation, the House proceeded to consider the bill as amended. During this preliminary discussion, the course proposed to be adopted in regard to Mr. Fawcett's clause was commented upon very freely, and not to the satisfaction of the Government.

Mr. FAWCETT remarked that the clause was carried by the independent feeling of the House, and could not be considered of a party character, because amongst the majority were Conservative members. He considered that he should be treated with unfairness if the Government now used its influence to reverse the decision arrived at on Saturday.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER defended the Government, and the SOLICITOR-GENERAL assisted him in the defence, alleging that the clause adopted on the motion of Mr. Fawcett could not work.

Mr. C. GILPIN suggested that they should proceed regularly with the bill, instead of pursuing that irregular discussion in which they were engaged. This advice produced a good effect, and very shortly afterwards the House proceeded to consider the bill as amended.

On the proposal of the LORD ADVOCATE the bill was extended to Scotland.

An attempt made by Mr. LABOUCHERE to pass a clause rendering illegal the conveyance to the poll of voters in the counties was defeated; so also were clauses prohibiting the use of public-houses for election purposes, and the employment of paid canvassers.

#### THURSDAY, JULY 23. HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House having gone into Committee on the Public Schools Bill, Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE proposed an amendment to clause 5, extending the period given to governing bodies by twelve months; and, after some remarks from Earl Stanhope, the Duke of Marlborough consented to extend the period five months, and the clause was then agreed to.

On the 13th clause, Lord LYTTELTON proposed an amendment giving the power of promotion by the head master, instead of the governing bodies; and, the Government having acquiesced, the amendment was carried by 36 to 15.

##### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### THE SHOT PRACTICE.

Sir J. PAKINGTON, in reply to Mr. Gaselee, stated that the reckless artillery practice at Portsmouth and Dover had taken place in violation of the regulations, and the officer in command had been reprimanded.

##### ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH BILL.

This bill was read the third time and passed.

##### CORRUPT PRACTICES AT ELECTIONS BILL.

The discussion on the report of the Election Petitions and Corrupt Practices at Elections Bill was resumed.

On the motion of Mr. AYRTON, a clause was agreed to giving a Judge power to reserve points of law in the same way as on trials at Nisi Prius. A number of verbal amendments, moved by the ATTORNEY-GENERAL for IRELAND, were agreed to.

Mr. LOWTHER moved to add to clause 43 that canvassers or agents previously found guilty of corrupt practices, applying to a candidate for employment without stating that fact, shall be guilty of misdemeanour.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL urged that this would be equal to inflicting a double punishment for one offence.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL then moved the rejection of clause 53, which was carried on the motion of Mr. Fawcett to charge the expenses of hustings, polling-places, &c., on the local rates. The learned gentleman contended that the clause would be most unfair to the ratepayer to throw upon them expenses which ought to be borne by the candidates, and that it would be the cause of bringing forward adventurers and improper candidates.

Mr. FAWCETT complained of the proceedings of the Government with respect to this clause. One result of the present course would be that independent members could not bring forward clauses to benefit a measure because the Government would always have power to override them. He hoped the members of that House would rally in support of their independence.

Mr. NEWDEGATE would vote with Mr. Fawcett as he had made his appeal to that House on sound principles and because there was danger of independent members being overridden by an official class.

Mr. MILL having said a few words, other hon. members carried on the discussion, amidst cries of divide—For the clause, 97; against, 115: majority against the clause, 18. The clause was then struck out.

Mr. FAWCETT gave notice that at the third reading he should move that the bill be recommitted, in order to insert the clause just rejected.

Mr. NEATE moved that the debate be adjourned till Monday.

Mr. GLADSTONE hoped the motion would not be pressed. The motion was withdrawn, and the bill was finished in Committee. The Hudson Bay Bill was read the third time and passed.

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SATURDAY, JULY 25, 1868.

#### THE HEAT.

If we are discontented with our climate in England we have good reason to be so. It is very often too hot, very often too cold; and if, as some one said, there are more days in England than in any other country on which one can walk out, there are also many days on which it would be very much better for us all if we were to stay at home. It being a generally received opinion in this country that our climate is the happiest possible medium between the heat of southern and the cold of northern Europe, we take neither the precautions of the Italians against summer nor those of the Russians against winter. There are actually men in England who never wear great coats, even during a hard frost; and there are scarcely a dozen men in London who, in such a temperature as that from which we have for some time past been suffering would have the courage to appear in a pair of white trousers, to say nothing of a white coat, such as in warmer, but less particular, countries it would be thought absurd not to wear. The hot weather has become such an important topic that it has received the honour of a leader in the *Times*, in which the writer well points out that "we have got the heat of Italy here without any of Italy's contrivances against the heat." Our faith is in draughts through the open windows; and we do not see that, together with the air, the glare, the dust, the flies, and all the scourges of summer, invade our rooms. Moreover, we do not get up till long after day-break, and we go abroad a great deal too much before sunset. No southern man would walk the streets in such weather as this during the hottest part of the afternoon; still less would he ride from twelve to two, as the intense heat notwithstanding, it is still the fashion to do in Hyde Park.

After all, however, it is scarcely worth while altering our habits so as to suit them to the heat of one exceptional summer. What should we think of a man of business who, instead of attending to his business, should from two to four indulge in the southern luxury of a siesta—if luxury to him it would be, which may be doubted? There are offices and counting-houses in the city in which visitors are rudely enjoined to "call upon a man of business in business hours, transact your business, and when you have transacted it, go about your business, and leave him to his." How little would the introduction of a siesta in the middle of the day accord with the spirit of these noble maxims!

But, without a period devoted to rest in the middle of the day, it would be evidently impossible to get up so early and go to bed so late as the Italian writer, or writer of Italian sympathies, in the *Times* would have us. It is equally obvious that we cannot rebuild our houses to suit a summer which, it is to be hoped, will not be repeated, and which deserves to be abused, if only on the ground of its being thoroughly un-English. The advice given by the *Times* on the subject of iced drinks has probably been already adopted by numbers of our countrymen, though it is quite true that we have not "that endless variety of delicious cooling beverages" with which nature and art enable the Italian to moisten his "simple, wholesome vegetable diet."

The fact is, we are no more prepared in this country for a really summer-like summer than for a really winter-like winter. We must bear it in our hotly-furnished houses and our hot, black clothes as we should have to bear a severe winter without double windows and without furs,

#### SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN is expected to start for the Continent on Wednesday, Aug. 5. Her Majesty, it appears, will have an interview with the Emperor of the French on her way to Switzerland, and will travel under the designation of Countess of Kent.

THE QUEEN OF PRUSSIA has caused a space to be reserved in the Park of the Invalides at Berlin, on which flying ambulance-wagons will be established to teach young women how to tend the wounded in a campaign.

THE KING OF SWEDEN has sent four landscapes to the Fine-Arts exhibition now open at Stockholm.

THE BETROTHAL of the Crown Prince of Denmark with Princess Louisa of Sweden took place at the Castle of Beckenast, last week.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY is so indisposed that he is ordered abroad immediately.

THE USUAL MINISTERIAL WHITEBAIT DINNER previous to the close of the Session took place on Wednesday at Greenwich.

THE HONORARY COLONELCY of the 3rd London Rifles has been accepted by Lord Napier of Magdala.

THE HEALTH of Mr. CORRY, the First Lord of the Admiralty, is so far re-established as to lead his friends to expect that he will be able to resume the discharge of his official duties early in the ensuing week.

TWO INQUESTS were held in London last Saturday in cases of death by sunstroke. One was that of a man of forty, named Archer, and the other a little boy of four, named Frederick Walker.

CONSUL HUTCHINSON, of Rosario, has presented to the Royal Geographical Society a collection (fifty-three in number) of valuable maps referring to the districts of South America which are now engrossing public attention in consequence of the protracted war with Paraguay.

THE RECTOR of ST. JOHN'S, SOUTHWARK, is preparing a scheme to throw open the present churchyards in the parish for the recreation and use of the parishioners. The reverend gentleman thinks it a fitting place where "poor old people may smoke their pipes."

THE AUSTRIAN EMPIRE is about to disappear from the political vocabulary. In place of it we are to read the Austro-Hungarian monarchy. This decision is said to have been come to at the last Ministerial Council held under the presidency of the Emperor in Vienna.

FATHER FISCHER, who was charged by the Emperor Maximilian to publish all the documents relating to the Mexican expedition, is steadily proceeding with the work, and thinks it may be ready for publication in four or five months.

LORD NAPIER OF MAGDALA was on Tuesday presented with the freedom of the city of London. The spectacle was a very brilliant one. Mr. Scott, the Chamberlain, read an address, which was expressed with great judgment and good taste. Lord Napier's reply was modest and manly. In the evening he was entertained at a banquet at the Mansion House.

A SECOND SALE of DOGS captured by the police took place, last Saturday, at Cremorne. There were sixty-eight lots put up for sale, some of which were valuable. The prices were very low, the sale altogether realising about £20, which goes to the Home for Lost and Starving Dogs, at Holloway.

MILES of moors and commons have been on fire in several parts of the country for some time past. Hundreds of acres are daily laid desolate, and sheep-walks and grouse-covers have been destroyed. Cattle are dying in many places through want of water.

MR. JUSTICE BLACKBURN, having been convinced that he, and not the committing magistrate, was the proper authority to deal with Mde. Rachel's proposed bail, consented to go into the matter on Wednesday at chambers. His Lordship was not satisfied with one of the sureties, and the application for the defendant's release was refused. Mde. Rachel, therefore, still remains in Newgate.

SIR JAMES WILDE, on Wednesday, invited the members of the Bar practising in the Court of Probate to divest themselves of their wigs, in consideration of the intense heat. Sir R. Phillimore, in the Court of Arches, followed suit, himself setting the example.

CARDINAL CULLEN has been dangerously ill, but is now much better.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW, at Leicester, has been a great success. The exhibition of animals and implements was large and of unusual excellence and variety. A very fine flower show has also been held in Leicester, under the auspices of the Royal Horticultural Society.

ANDREW MACKAY, who committed a shocking murder in Norton Folgate, and who has so long eluded detection, has been discovered in Maldenstone Gaol, whither he had been sent for committing a petty theft. The name he passed under was George Jackson, and he was identified by a photograph of him which had been sent to the prison.

AT FONTAINEBLEAU, on Monday, in constructing the works for conveying the water of the Yonne to Paris, a landslip took place, and buried eight men alive. After some time the earth was removed, when four were found to be dead, and the others so much injured as to admit of but slight hopes of their recovery.

INCENDIARY FIRES are again becoming frequent in various parts of Russia. Whole villages are reported to be in flames, and several large towns have been partially burnt.

THE GIBRALTAR BOARD OF HEALTH decided, on the 13th inst., to cut off all communication with Barbary, owing to the prevalence of cholera there. Tangier is put in quarantine, and also the whole of the Rif coast. At Mazagan, in Barbary, twenty deaths from cholera were occurring daily.

ANOTHER INSTANCE is reported of an extraordinary verdict delivered by a Welsh jury. In a case of uttering a forged note, tried before Mr. James Smith, at Cardigan, the jury returned this special verdict:—"We find the prisoner guilty of telling stories about the note, and we think that he ought to pay the money back, and have three months' time for it."

M. MAURAY addressed a letter to M. Victor Hugo, which only came to hand two months and a half after it was posted. That gentleman is, therefore, about to sue M. Vandal, Postmaster-General, for the delay in the delivery of a letter entrusted to his administration.

THE SIAMESE TWINS, who are now residents in North Carolina, and are in their fifty-ninth year, have determined to go to Paris to undergo an operation, with a view, if possible, to the severing of the integument which has so long united them. They fear that, if one becomes afflicted with disease, the other may suffer. Both are married and have families.

THE MEXICANS are rapidly establishing a telegraphic communication between the city of Mexico and Matamoros, on one side of the Rio Bravo, and the United States telegraph extends close to the other side of the Rio Bravo. London will therefore soon be in rapport with the ancient capital of Montezuma.

THE ORANGEMEN of Coatesland, Killyman, Stoughan, and Newmills assembled, on Sunday evening last, near the last-named place, for the purpose of burning Mr. Gladstone in effigy. The effigy of the right hon. gentleman was first placed on a low wall by these enlightened politicians and shot at, after which it was consigned to the flames amidst general groaning.

ANOTHER DARING ROBBERY is reported from Cork as having been committed in a gunmaker's shop on Monday morning. Four young men, apparently Americans, entered the place, and one of them presented a revolver at the shopman, who was easily cowed. The others took eighteen guns, which they deposited in sacks, and quietly walked away.

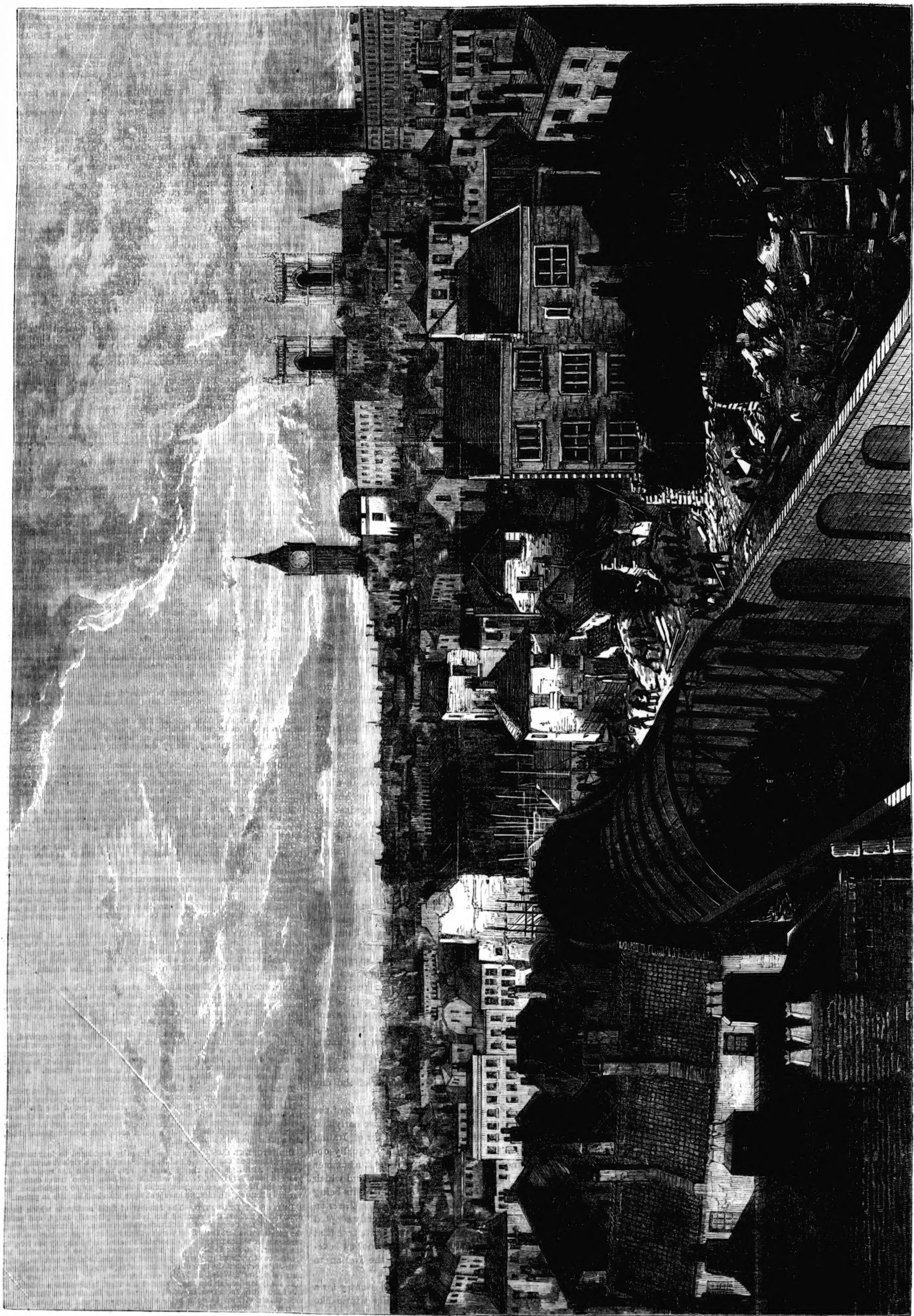
AT WOODBURY, a village seven miles from Exeter, a fire occurred, on Sunday morning, similar to that which caused the partial destruction of Ottery St. Mary some three years ago. Ten houses were totally destroyed; as many families, representing fifty persons, being rendered homeless. Most of the houses were insured; only one tenant was insured. A subscription for the unfortunate people has been commenced.

THE JUDGE of the County Court at Mold, Flintshire, has given notice that he will not hear any advocate who does not appear in legal costume—"It is expected that every professional gentleman (not of the Bar) who practices in the courts should—by order to distinguish him from a class of persons who, in various instances, improperly intrude upon the Court—wear the usual professional costume, of a black dress with a white neckerchief, and a plain gown without bands."

CHRISTOPHER CASSIDY was last Saturday sentenced to four months' imprisonment at one of the Dublin police courts for a violent assault on a woman. Although not thirty years of age, this man has spent eleven years in penal servitude, besides which he has been seven times convicted before the Recorder and fourteen times before the police magistrates, for various offences. In fact, he has spent more than half his life in prison.

DEATHS BY DROWNING.—The number of fatal accidents which have occurred to bathers this summer has been exceptionally large, and point urgently to the necessity of watchfulness and caution. In many instances, the persons who lost their lives were swimmers, but were rather too venturesome for their strength, or exhausted themselves by staying too long in the water. Other fatalities, far more numerous, have been caused by ignorance of swimming, the simplest and most healthful of exercises. Six little boys, between the ages of nine and twelve, were drowned while bathing, near Rhyl, North Wales, on Friday evening week. Of course, there have been many mishaps in bathing. One of the most lamentable accidents of this kind which have been reported occurred near Battersea on Sunday, the unfortunate victims being a bride and bridegroom and the sister of the former. These three, with a young man named Alfred Thompson, went out for a row, and Thompson sculled. Either from bad steering, or carelessness, the boat was brought in contact with a barge, under which it sank. When it rose to the surface again Thompson was seen clinging to it; the others had disappeared.





THE WORKS AT WESTMINSTER OF THE METROPOLITAN RAILWAY.



# KING THEODORE'S SON.

THIS young Prince, of whom we this week publish a portrait, is seven years old. His name is Dejatch Alamayou, meaning, "I have seen the world"—a prophetic name, likely to be fulfilled. He is tall for his age, but touchingly childlike in manner; dark copper-coloured skin, with jet-black hair cut close to the head. He has thick, prominent lips; but in all other respects his features are of the pure Caucasian type; and he is beyond question a pretty, pleasing child, and such a one as attracts in a moment the sympathy of all who love children. His forehead is rather high, broad across the upper part of the brow, and largely developed at the centre and in the region of the frontal sinus, so that a phrenologist would assign him good reflective faculties, very large memory of events, and an unusual bias for perception and observation, while the calculating and musical organs are very low. He has a fine, keen temperament, and a large, high brain, especially marked in the seat of self-esteem, love of approbation, and imagination, according to Spurzheim. His eyes are intensely black, large, and singularly striking; he has, in spite of the prominence of the lips, a small mouth; and his chin and cheeks are rounded off in the dainty, pretty manner which is so very interesting in young children. His ears are larger than those of an average English child, but not so much so as to form a personal defect, if his hair were grown. He is generally dressed in a dark knickerbocker suit and striped stockings, and wears a straw-hat, with H.M.S. Urgent on the ribbon, that being the name of the ship in which he arrived at Plymouth.

During the journey of the young Prince from Plymouth to Osborne to be presented to the Queen, a delay of about an hour occurred at Exeter, and during the hour he waited the little Prince showed no sign of irritability of temper or any trait that might indicate he could make himself troublesome or become difficult to manage, and Captain Speedy (under whose charge he has been placed since leaving Abyssinia) speaks of him in the highest terms as an affectionate, gentle, and manageable child. Shortly after one o'clock the poor little thing, sitting in a chair by himself, grew uneasy at the delay, and, getting down from the chair, spoke to the Captain in a plaintive tone, and he was hardly reassured until the Captain took him caressingly to him. Captain Speedy explained that the child said he wanted to go on to see the Queen as he had been promised, but he had been taken out of the carriage, and now the carriage was gone on without him, and how should he get to see the Queen? The Captain's version was, "I was in a carriage just now; you have brought me into a house, and I heard the puffing thing go away. I don't want to come to a house. Why don't we go to the Queen?" Captain Speedy during his stay in the refreshment-room related many interesting facts about the child and the expedition. The Prince, he said, could write and read fluently in his own language. The little boy speaks a few words of English; he, with some difficulty and hesitation, named two or three English letters on a bottle, and said "horse," "good-bye," and one or two other words



THE SON OF KING THEODORE.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY THE LONDON STEREOSCOPIC COMPANY.)

the Queen of Abyssinia was dying Captain Speedy was asked to take charge of this child, which is Theodore's only legitimate offspring and the heir to his kingdom; but he had to take a solemn oath to the dying mother before she placed the Prince under his care. The Queen said to him, "Have you a mother?" "Yes," "Then," said the Queen, "swear, may God cause my mother to die a bitter death if I do not act towards this child as my own son." He swore he would act towards the boy to the best of his ability, and the poor dying mother was satisfied. Since then the child has been his constant care. He is a very abstemious lad, eating little besides bread and some fish, and drinking only water.

## THE METROPOLITAN RAILWAY AT WESTMINSTER.

ONE of the threads of the network of railway which is now gradually extending round and through London is rapidly approaching completion. We allude to the Metropolitan District Railway, which, starting from the Metropolitan line near Bayswater, crosses the Kensington road near the church, passing through Brompton, over the Fulham road, the bottom of Sloane-street, Chelsea, towards the Victoria station; then running nearly parallel with Victoria-street through Westminster, eventually reaches the Thames embankment. Our Engraving represents the works now in progress in the heart of Westminster. The line nearly throughout is below the road level, and is principally an open tunnel lined with brick. There will be stations at Kensington, the bottom of Sloane-street, at Victoria-street, in Westminster and in other localities, thus giving facilities of travelling from the extreme west to the heart of London; and, from its connection with nearly all the principal railways, this line will furnish starting-points to every part of the kingdom.

Mr. Fowler is the engineer, and Messrs. Kelk and Lucas are the contractors.

## "FOWL PLAY," AT THE QUEEN'S THEATRE.

THE dramatised version of the novel called "Fowl Play," which has had a prosperous run at Miss Fanny Joseph's theatre in Holborn, is obviously susceptible of burlesque treatment; and Mr. F. C. Burnand has travestied it with no little drollery in the extravaganza entitled "Fowl Play; or, a Story of Chikkin Hazard," which was produced at the Queen's Theatre a few weeks ago. Having already quizzed Messrs. Reade and Boucicault's romantic tale in a series of laughable papers published in the columns of *Punch*, Mr. Burnand brought to his after task a mind thoroughly saturated with the fun of the subject. He has turned the story upside down and inside out, giving a ludicrous aspect to all its characters, and utilising its every incident for comic purposes. The result is a sally of dramatic absurdity so rich in ridiculous adventure as to afford great enjoyment to the audience, who relish the jokes exceedingly, and insist upon encores all the songs and dances. The burlesque opens, like the play, in a



SCENE FROM MR. BURNAND'S BURLESQUE, "FOWL PLAY," AT THE QUEEN'S THEATRE.



merchant's office, the scenic arrangements of which bear a grotesque resemblance to those of the original piece. Arthur Waddler, having lost £2000 at Chicken Hazard, has forged his father's name to procure this sum, and has, to complete his wickedness, obtained the conviction of his tutor, young Penfold, who has been transported for the felony. Escaping from Hobart Town, Penfold has been shipwrecked, with his sweetheart, Miss Rollingstone, upon a wonderful island. So stands the story at the commencement of the drama. The drollest scene is that representing the island in question. Here we find the lovers leading an Arcadian, or, to use their own phrase, a "Lowther Arcadian" existence, surrounded by toy-dogs, wooden birds with moving heads and tails, and other mechanical animals which fetch and carry at command, and display an obsequious instinct that might well have excited the surprise of Buffon and Cuvier. Miss Hodson, as Helen Rollingstone, is decked out in some such dress of coral, sea-shells, and seaweed as a mermaid might be expected to wear. She is housed in a sand and shell grotto, built after the fashion of the toy cottages sold at watering-places. Mr. J. L. Toole, who plays her lover, is clad in satin and flesh-coloured tights, like an acrobat. He would seem to roost in the trees, whence he swings down to his lady-love on a flying trapeze, chirping and carolling merrily the while, though not exactly like a bird. The everyday life of this comic Paul and Virginia, as pictured in this amusing scene, is full of ludicrous incidents. Their absurd songs, ridiculous dances, and fantastic airs of courtship are among the funniest things in the piece. When they shoot together they fire at random in the air, and bring down whatever household articles they may require; when they go out fishing they pull out of the sea potted anchovies, bloaters, and sardines; so that the spirit of Munchausen may be said to pervade the place. Mr. Toole performs for the amusement of his Dalceina a variety of juggling tricks in a style that would do no discredit to a professed conjuror; and, when the lady's friends arrive from England, he enlivens them with some admirable imitations of Mr. Buckstone, Mr. Webster, Mr. Phelps, Mr. Fechter, and Mr. Compton. In these feats of mimicry the actor hits off with surprising spirit and precision the tone, look, and manner of the various artists whom he affects to copy. He also takes off Mr. Harrison, the singer, in one of his best-known ballads, with laughable fidelity of voice and gesture. In the landscape which is the scene of these droll proceedings, the painter, Mr. Johnstone, seems to have attempted a pictorial skit upon the Pre-Raphaelites. The sins which adverse critics have laid to the charge of that celebrated school of painters may be said to be imagined in the prim formality of the trees, the rigour of the outline, and the exaggerated precision with which every object, animate and inanimate, is depicted. You may see the crabs and lobsters moving about in the water; you may almost pick out each particular leaf, shell, and pebble on the foreshore. This sarcastic picture is duly appreciated by the spectators, as is shown, not only by their laughter and applause, but more unreasonably by their call for the painter. As the piece proceeds, all the leading incidents of the original story are turned into ridicule with more or less effect; but a quicker and more varied action of the plot in the last scene is essential to make the piece conclude as spiritedly as it commences. The burlesque is picturesquely mounted and very richly dressed, almost all the personages being clad in many-coloured satins of the most lustrous texture. Mr. Toole appears in the first instance as Penfold, and afterwards "doubles," as the stage-phrase goes, for the Detective, playing each part with equal humour. He is well supported by Miss Hodson, who acts with much grace and naïveté as Helen. Mr. L. Brough, dazlingly arrayed in blue and white satin, impersonates Wylie, the mate who scuttled the *Proserpine*, with a curious admixture of broad fun and tragic passion. He realises, with complete success, the notion of a man whose external waggery is but the "artistic disposition" of a criminal trembling for his life, and "nawrdly consumed by the sense of guilt. As an exhibition of lugubrious fun, vainly struggling with remorse, nothing can be much better than his singing of the "comic" song descriptive of the scuttling of the ship and the stealing of the cargo. He suspends his grim humour every now and then, and looks affrightedly around him like some conscience-stricken wretch who expects his laughter to be cut short by the coming of the executioner. Mr. Stephens, who appears as Michael Penfold, the old clerk, is happy in the possession of a wig so ingeniously constructed that the hair stands wildly on end or sinks sleekly to the head, just as the feelings of the wearer fluctuate between excitement and dejection. Mr. Wyndham, in a suit of satin with more colours than the rainbow, dances nimbly about the stage, and portrays, with no little humour, the reckless scamp Arthur Waddler. Miss Farren experienced a cordial welcome on making her first appearance at this theatre in the character of Nancy Rouse, which she performed most amusingly. The cast also includes Mr. Gaston Murray, as the Old General; Mr. Sanger, as the Underwriter at Lloyd's; and Mr. Howard, as the senior partner in the house of Waddler and Sons. The music, skilfully arranged by Mr. W. H. Montgomery, consists of selections from Offenbach's "Grande Duchesse" and "Robinson Crusoe."

**THE SILK WORM DISEASE.**—M. Pasteur has communicated to the French Academy of Sciences some fresh researches of his on the disease called in French *morbo fatali*, incident to silkworms. When they are labouring under this affection they evince loss of appetite and lie extended on the hurdles; their intestines in such cases contain various organised beings, which are not to be met with in the healthy silkworm. Such are, in the first place, very nimble vibrios, with or without brilliant points in their bodies; secondly, a monad remarkable for its agility; thirdly, *Bacterium termo*, or a vibrio that much resembles it; and, lastly, a ferment in the shape of a row of beads. These productions are sometimes together in the same worm, and sometimes separate. That which is most frequently to be met with is the row of three, four, or five perfectly spherical beads, the diameter of which is about the one thousandth part of a millimetre. M. Pasteur next proceeds to show that the *morbo fatali* disease may be hereditary. If the finest cocoons of a breed strongly affected with this malady be selected for propagation, it will be found that the silkworms issuing from them will be affected with it. Its effects are various; it will sometimes carry off a whole brood, and at others only thin the numbers; but the worms that attain the age of spinning their cocoons are remarkable for their laziness. M. Pasteur, having examined many in this state of incipient lethargy and in the chrysalis state, has always found the "row of beads" in the intestines, without either vibrios, vibrios, or monads. Nevertheless, there is nothing to prove these ferments to be the cause of the *morbo fatali* diseases; perhaps they are only the necessary result of an unsound state of the digestive functions. One of our author's experiments consisted in reducing a quantity of mulberry leaves into a pulp with water; at the end of twenty-four hours the preparation contained the identical organisms described above. Hence there is strong presumption that the appearances in the intestines of the diseased silkworms are entirely owing to bad digestion.

**EXTRAORDINARY SCENE IN A CHURCHYARD.**—A scene of extraordinary excitement was witnessed, the other day, in the ancient graveyard of St. Mary's, Drogheda. A Mr. Strype, manager of the foundry of Messrs. Grendon, having died a few days ago, his friends desired to have him interred in the cemetery attached to the parish, in which he had resided for three or four years. When excavating about four feet below the surface the gravedigger came upon a tombstone, which was lifted, and was found to have cut upon it several figures, including a cross, a lamb treading upon a dragon, a key, and other devices, which led some Roman Catholics to suppose that it covered the remains of a dignitary of their Church. A rumour quickly spread that the grave of a bishop was about to be desecrated. The people in the vicinity became greatly excited; and, assembling in large numbers, provided with spades, they very soon filled up the grave, replaced the stone, and declared their determination not to allow anyone to disturb it again. The Rev. Mr. Duggan, the Curate, who was looking on, entreated them to take the stone into the vestry of the church for preservation, but they indignantly refused to do so. The church wardens were sent for, and endeavoured to convince them of their error, but in vain. They insisted that another grave should be opened, and offered to dig one in the new ground where strangers were buried. At length, after the funeral had been delayed for some hours, the friends of the deceased offered to have another grave opened if the crowd quietly dispersed. They refused to do so, supposing, no doubt, that it was a stratagem to get them away. The Roman Catholic Curate of the parish arrived, and strongly advised them to accept the proposal, but they still refused; and, as matters were assuming a very threatening aspect, it was found necessary to send for eighty men of the 21st Royal Scotch Fusiliers, under the command of Lieutenant Allen, who formed a cordon round the gravediggers to protect them while they opened a fresh grave.

### THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

THE House of Commons surely never had such a six days' labour as last week. The thermometer ranged from 78 to 80. Half-past two, three, and once a quarter past three: these were the hours at which the House broke up. One night Mr. Speaker sat in the chair thirteen hours. The members' faces, as they glistened under the gaslight, looked as if they had been anointed with oil. When I was looking down upon this perspiring assembly from my perch in the gallery, I myself oozing at every pore, I wondered why the members wore their hats. The modern hat is not comfortable. The lightest is too heavy; and all hats, light or heavy, press too much upon the forehead. Out of doors we are obliged to wear them; but why men indoors should, on such hot, oppressive nights as we have had, keep their heads covered, passes my comprehension. Disraeli never wears his hat in the House; as soon as he enters he takes it off, and tucks it under his seat; and some few of the members follow his example; but the bulk of them keep their hats on. Gladstone generally wears his hat, and a curious tale it is, by-the-way. It is drab-coloured, and antique, one would say, for the shape is very odd. It is custom, you will say, that makes these men sit covered. But how did the strange custom originate? What was the germ of it? In the Assembly of the States General of France, in 1798, the King, having made his speech, put on his plumed hat. The noblesse, being privileged to sit covered in the presence of Majesty, immediately put on their hats, whereupon the *Tiers-état députés*, in like manner, defiantly, clapped on their heads their slouched tiles. This was their way in those revolutionary days of claiming equality. There were loud cries of "Hats off!" from the noblesse and the officials, and for a time a storm threatened; which the King perceiving, to restore calm, took off his hat. Each man did the same, and there was peace. Did the custom of wearing hats in the House of Commons originate from anything like this—a claim for equality and liberty? Perhaps it did. If so, this protest against inequality has thus become a tyrannous custom which needs to be protested against. I noticed that two or three members have adopted a lighter sort of hat. Mr. Clive sported a straw, but he did not dare to wear it in the House. Mr. Hubbard came down in a felt wideawake; but he, too, kept his eccentric castor out of sight whilst he was in the House. John Stuart Mill rarely, if ever, sits covered. The philosopher knows that a hat does not contribute to health. The Radical despises the tyranny of custom. But, really, Mr. Editor, is it not surprising that sensible men, with the thermometer at 80 deg., should wear much more clothing than they require, and wonderful that they should voluntarily submit to wear their hats in such an atmosphere?

I suppose Parliament will be up next week, but I really do not know on what day it will rise, nor can I assert that it will be prorogued next week. Tell me what Disraeli means to do with the Metropolitan Cattle Market Bill, and I shall be able to speak with more certainty about the prorogation of Parliament. Perhaps before this is printed he will himself tell us. At present the members of the Government say that he means to push it through, though he should have to keep the House sitting far into August; but I think this is mere brag. I do not believe that Disraeli cares a bit about the bill, or believes in it. His zeal for it is accountable enough. He thinks that this bill will do him good amongst the farmers. "The Church's friend" cry is, obviously, a failure. He must come out, then, again as the "farmer's friend." But I fancy they will have to take the will for the deed. I don't think that he can carry this bill. But then he has tried to do it, and perhaps that will do. "You see, Gentlemen, I did all I could. I could not do impossibilities, you know." I have been asked, Why does he not withdraw it? He cannot pass it. Why, for the reason hinted at. To prove that he is the farmer's friend. He thus sticks to it to the last.

I have no intention of mixing in the war of words evoked by Professor Morley's supposed discovery of a poem by Milton; but perhaps you will allow me to point out an analogy that seems to have escaped the notice of the critics on both sides. Lord Winchelsea takes special objection to "urn" and "mourn" being accepted as Miltonic rhymes. This he calls a false rhyme, which it was impossible for Milton's fine ear to tolerate. But it is not at all unusual for poets to use this exact sound in rhyme, if not the exact words. Several instances of this have been adduced from Milton's own writings; and what I wish to call attention to is the fact that Burns makes use of the same combination of sounds in rhyme. In the third verse of "Man was made to Mourn" occur the following lines:—

I've seen yon weary winter sun  
Twice forty times return,  
And every time has added proofs  
That man was made to mourn.

And the same rhyme is repeated in the fourth and eighth stanzas, "burn" and "spurn" being made to rhyme with "mourn." This may, perhaps, be said to be only Scotch authority, and therefore of no value in the pending controversy. But I beg to say, first, that Burns knew something about rhyme, perhaps as much as Lord Winchelsea; second, that "Man was made to Mourn" is written throughout in English; third, that "mourn" is very generally pronounced "murn" in the north; and fourth, that Lowland Scotch—the Scotch of Burns, that is—has more in common, both as regards idiom and pronunciation, with old English than has modern "cockney patter"; yea, even than cockney literary "patter." I have been often astonished to find learned commentators puzzling about the signification of words and phrases in Shakespeare which to me, northern bred, needed no elucidation whatever, because they were perfectly familiar to me before I had ever read a line of the great dramatist. Lord Winchelsea likewise takes exception to the phrase "thymy wood" in the newly-discovered poem, because, he says, thyme never grows in woods, and Milton must have known this, and therefore would never have written of thymy woods. But, not to dwell upon the idea that "thymy wood" may have been employed by the author in a figurative way, in the sense of "fragrant wood," and ought not to be interpreted literally, I must take the liberty of demurring to Lord Winchelsea's facts, for I have myself, when a boy, gathered wild thyme in woods as often as there are teeth in my head. On sunny banks, I admit; but sunny banks with wild thyme on them may be found in some woods, my Lord Winchelsea to the contrary notwithstanding. Of course, these considerations do not prove that "An Epitaph" was written by John Milton; but they help to show, I think, that some, at least, of Lord Winchelsea's reasons for declaring it was not are inconclusive. Were it worth while to make a search, I have no doubt other good poets might be found who used the same combinations in rhyme; but it is unnecessary, seeing that Milton himself has been proved to have more than once employed the very rhymes and figures to which Lord Winchelsea objects.

Is it treason, or sedition, or treason-felony, or misprision of treason, or any such like high political offence, to make game of Parliament, and of her Majesty's Government and her Majesty's Opposition? If so, then Messrs. Stanley Rivers and Co., of Paisgrave-place, Strand, ought to be indicted forthwith; for they propose not only to make game, but a game, of the Conscript Fathers of the Legislature. This is to be done in "The Game of M.P.; or, Government and Opposition: a Round Game for any number of players;" and it is said that "this amusing novelty will be one of the features at evening parties in the coming season. It is one of the cleverest round games ever brought out—very simple, very amusing, and very speculative. The cards represent the Cabinet Ministers, the Speaker, honourable members on the Government benches, and honourable members on the Opposition benches. The game proceeds by divisions, it levies taxes, and allows 'an appeal to the country,' with various other laughable adaptations of our constitutional forms, affording plenty of opportunity for humorous dialogue concerning politics, Parliament, Lords and Commons, and fun at St. Stephen's." I hope Mr. Disraeli and his learned Attorney-General will instantly look after this matter; for the Ministers have brought the game of politics into so much disrepute by their fantastic tricks, that political life

will really bear no further mummaging, and they must come to the rescue.

### THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

The literary topic of the week is, of course, the poem which Professor Morley has found in the King's Library and thinks is Milton's. It is unnecessary to recapitulate here what most of your readers will have seen in the morning papers. But I may say, briefly, that I agree with Professor Masson (who was a long while ago aware of the existence of the poem, and is our best authority on Milton, besides being one of our first critics) in rejecting the poem as not Milton's.

Now, a word or two to those who like "literary intelligence," as they call it. The Miss Joey Tennyson advertised as singing at some music-hall or other is not a daughter of the Laureate. That gentleman has not been seen to call for her in his brougham. Again: the Mr. George McDonald who is advertised as secretary to some co-operative boot and shoe society is not the author of "Phantastes" and "Guild Court."

Mr. E. S. Dallas is about to bring out, through the Messrs. Tinsley, a new edition of Richardson's "Clarissa," abbreviated, I suppose, a good deal, and perhaps a very little toned down here and there. But, as Mr. Dallas is a man of masculine understanding, and as he respects his author, one may be sure he will not serve Richardson the trick that Sir Walter Scott refused to do to Dryden, in words which some of your readers, Mr. Editor, will remember. At all events, they were good enough to deserve remembering, though Mrs. Trimmer would turn in her coffin if I were to repeat them. But about this "Clarissa," Mr. Dallas was laughed at, some time ago, for saying it was the finest novel in the English language; yet ordinary readers little know the enormous weight of high-class critical testimony that might be brought forward on the same side. For myself, I take leave to say ditto to Mr. Dallas. In spite of the prolixity and the other faults of "Clarissa" (including its wild improbabilities), it not only cut me up more than any book I ever read, but left by far the deepest and most enduring impression of any novel I ever perused. The slow but unrelenting agony of the story bites like an acid. I beg leave to congratulate Mr. Dallas, Messrs. Tinsley, and, most of all, the public, upon this approaching reprint of a great book.

Some time ago I reviewed in your columns a little volume of verse, a considerable portion of which was true and lovely poetry—"Ten Miles from Town, and Other Poems," by Mr. W. Sawyer. I am afraid I have omitted to notice the second edition, which the author was kind enough to send to me; but I adhere to my first opinion of the book in every particular. Mr. Sawyer does, unquestionably, write real poetry, and the poem "Nymph and Satyr" might have borne the signature of Heine. Indeed, I should find it difficult to believe that Heine did not write it if I did not know that no translation could be such good Heine and such good English at once.

### THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Upon my honour! I do not consider that blacking one's face, contorting one's mouth, and wagging one's eyebrows, means playing Othello. I suppose Mr. Pennington does, or he would not have invited London to see the feat at the Haymarket; and I suppose the British public thinks that the wagging, the blacking, and the contortion are all that is wanted; for the British public did go to the Haymarket Theatre, and applauded Mr. Pennington most vociferously. Happily, I have nothing whatever to do with the verdict of a house which may, or may not, be packed. All who have intelligence enough to read and understand half a dozen lines of Shakespeare, and all who have sufficient ear to appreciate the rhythm of Shakespeare's lines, must have considered Mr. Pennington singularly unsuited for the task he set himself. On questions of art no two people are agreed. Perhaps it is highly artistic and clever to roll out line after line of mispronounced and falsely accentuated Shakespeare; but "it delights not me." Mr. Ryder's Iago, on the other hand, is just one of those performances which from force of contrast shows up the glaring absurdities of the old school. He can play Iago, and still allow the audience to understand something of the character and the text. As a foil to such an Othello, Mr. Ryder's Iago was indeed a treat, and I inwardly trusted that it might happily remove some of the scales from the eyes of the worshippers of so-called Drury Lane traditions. The famous Othello year at the Princess's has done some good, after all. The pamphlets written at the time about the play may have been very silly and overdrawn; but the value of the contrast between the Othello and the Iago at the Haymarket Theatre is invaluable.

Another well-known face in theatrical circles will never be seen again. Mr. J. Sterling Coyne is no more. For the last thirty years he has worked away, in London, at painstaking, plodding work connected with dramatic literature, and for many years was known as the able dramatic critic of the *Sunday Times*. As secretary to the Dramatic Authors' Society, he endeared himself to his brother authors; and I will venture to say there does not exist an author, actor, or manager, who does not sincerely regret the death of "old Coyne." He was in his sixty-fifth year; and the grand old fellow, full of energy to the last, died literally in harness. Only the day before his death, weak and prostrate as he was with the agonising sickness which killed him, he insisted upon having an interview with his confidential clerk and arranging for the business of the following day. But on the following day the clerk had no master. Mr. Coyne was for many years connected with *Punch*; and I may mention incidentally that he himself named that periodical. Mr. Coyne's fame will live in many cheery little farces and comedies which will hold possession of the stage for many years to come; and his name will always be held in affectionate remembrance by the literary friends and literary clubs who were so glad to welcome him.

I know how difficult a thing it must be to provide the German Reeds and John Parry with a new entertainment. I have seen some hundreds of their entertainments, but they always appear to me to be precisely the same. It is the same old tune with an extra chord in the accompaniment. The difficulty of the author is at once apparent. It is not a case of—given an idea to find out interpreters of it; but given the German Reeds and John Parry—to find out an idea which can be made to fit them. I must confess that I don't envy the entertainment-maker. He must allow Mr. and Mrs. German Reed to change their dresses ever so many times and pretend they are delineating ever so many different types of character, and he must make use of Mr. John Parry in any part ranging from a schoolboy of ten to a dotard of eighty, to say nothing of the young lady—an addition to the conventional cast—with as few words and as many ballads as possible. But, granted the difficulty of the task of the entertainment-maker, I honestly think that Mr. F. C. Burnand might have made a better job of it than he has with "Inquire Within." The plots of Gallery-of-Illustration entertainments must be far-fetched; but, so long as they introduce plenty of songs and plenty of fun, the public does not care how far-fetched they are. "Inquire Within" is outrageously improbable; the opportunities for songs are few; and the stock company is not, strange to say, provided with characters which in any way suit them. Mr. John Parry is supposed to be a crusty and stingy old bachelor, who has adopted a niece (Miss Sinclair). The niece is a nuisance, with her pianoforte airs and her spinster graces; and the uncle is anxious to be rid of her. One of Mrs. German Reed's well-known fast-talking ladies offers to do this by placing a board outside announcing that the bachelor's house is to let, in order to catch suitors for the niece. Hence the meaning of the title, "Inquire Within." Something might have been made out of this notion if ordinary care had been bestowed on it; and Mr. Burnand introduces one excellent situation, where the stingy bachelor pretends to be a butler, and sees his madeira and luncheon consumed by the adventurers and is unable to interpose. But the whole thing appears to have been knocked off hurriedly, and the nervousness of the company on the first night of the entertainment only made more



manifest the shortcomings of the author. Mr. Burnand does not need to be told that "before" does not rhyme with "law," or that a rhyming song on "Cheltenham," in which "melt in 'em," "felt in 'em," "kelt in 'em," "Celt in 'em," "dealt in 'em," "dwelt in 'em," "pelt in 'em," "spelt in 'em," and "belt in 'em" is not a work of profound difficulty. They are rhymes to "Chelt," not to "Cheltenham." Of course I remained to see Mr. Parry in his Public Dinner scene. Who could ever weary of John Parry, a consummate artist in the truest sense of the word?

#### MR. J. S. MILL, M.P., ON THE LEGISLATION OF THE FUTURE.

ON Wednesday, at a crowded public meeting of their constituents, held in St. James's Hall, Piccadilly, the present, and it may be fairly assumed prospective, members for Westminster, entered upon their second joint electoral campaign. The balcony was reserved for ladies, not a few of whom were present. The Hon. R. W. Grosvenor and Mr. John Stuart Mill came into the hall together, and were received in a very enthusiastic manner, the fair occupants of the galleries heartily joining in the applause.

Dr. Brewer, who occupied the chair, delivered a brief introductory address, in the course of which he referred to the individual differences which prevail amongst the Liberal party upon minor questions, remarking that it was time these were made to give place to a solid union for the sake of the general public interest. He dilated upon the faithful manner in which the members had discharged their duties as representatives of the city, and bespoke for each a patient hearing.

Captain Grosvenor, being, according to Parliamentary rule, the senior member, spoke first; and entered upon a review of the Parliamentary struggles of 1866, 1867, and 1868; and concluded by expressing a hope that all true Liberals who wished to check extravagance and secure the prosperity of the country and the happiness of the people would unite in the efforts to secure for Mr. Gladstone a majority in the new Parliament.

Mr. J. S. Mill, who was again loudly cheered, the entire meeting almost rising, said his hon. colleague had confined his able and interesting address to the past; he should deal with the future. Great changes had been made in our representative institutions. The constituencies had been greatly enlarged, and they were now going to be asked what they meant to do with their new power. Did they intend to have a stricter Government, with an improvement in its administration? The mass of the community had obtained influence and a voice in the conduct of the Legislature. Was their purpose that the Imperial interest should be more attended to than it had hitherto been? If they were indifferent to their own interest they might depend upon it other people would be so too. If they meant that the Government under which we were now living should be a good one for the whole people—a Government willing and able to deal with the great social difficulties now pressing upon us—then it was time to bestir themselves. It was time for them to think how to make their political suffrages instrumental in bringing about this purpose. The people had only to make up their mind that a thing should be done, and it would be done. Where there was a will the way would present no difficulties. When they made up their minds that the corn laws should cease anybody could have carried the measure, and so when they decided a thing should be done it could be done. Now, there was the Irish Church. When the nation had decided that it should no longer go on, the thing could be done almost as easily as said. But the nation had a great many more things to do than that. It had got to make good laws for the safety of society. We had got a great deal richer, more struggling, more overcrowded in society, than our ancestors could ever have formed any idea of. A vast mercantile and commercial industry had thrown itself up, and there was a number of things to be done now that required long and patient thought, much more thought and patience than the body politic could possibly bestow upon their consideration. What the public had to do, then, was to find the men who could do the thing. For instance, let him first speak of the great question upon everybody's mind—the proportions and relations between capital and labour. How far did the public mind go upon that? Why, it said, let the relation between workman and employer, so far as it can be, be assisted by the law; but this was not a case in which the nation could instruct Parliament, and the proper mode of dealing with the question had yet to be found out. Another matter was the power to deal with pauperism, as contained in poor-law relief. We knew the vices of the system, we knew what vast sums of money were levied; and yet those who most needed public charity were imperfectly relieved. We know that provision was made for nursing the sick, caring for the aged and helpless, and education for the young; and yet these things were often a cruel mockery. How was this? Why, it was because these matters had not been thoroughly organised. What was wanted was an organising mind, who should be able to know how to make people do their duty, how to give relief without encouraging those who were not entitled to it. Consider, again, the state of our great towns, how crowded they were. How was that to be cured? It was not to be done by building alone; and here again was a subject of thought and study that must tax to the utmost the greatest legislative ability of the country. In the same way he might refer to the question of education. The people all desired it; and, if good will could do the thing, we should not have long to wait. There were schools and funds sufficient to educate both the higher and the lower classes; but the teachers were not fit for their work, and the administrators and superintendents, who had the control of large districts and funds, had left them to take care of themselves, while parents were equally negligent. Unless we placed national education on a better footing than this, our expenditure would be useless. Then, again, there was administrative reform: how were we to get the most efficient government at the smallest possible cost? It was not to be done by the mere willing it; but must have, as before, the influence of an organising mind. In every department of Government the grand want was a capable man, and the people of this country had never had since the time of the Commonwealth so efficient and perfect a leader for all these purposes as they possessed now. If the people, then, wanted all these things done they must be content to send to Parliament not men who would merely support Mr. Gladstone, but men who could help him also. Everything that Mr. Gladstone did by himself he did admirably; but the work to be done required more assistants, and in this way the people must make their election. The men who were sent to the next Parliament must carry something more than mere money-bags and pledges. Nor must their hands be tied up, for the public required to be represented by men who could tell them what was to be done, not they them. The electors were responsible to posterity, to the unrepresented, and, unless they rose to the height of their duty, the great change we expect to come to pass would be much more slow and imperfect than we had otherwise reason to hope.

On the motion of Mr. Probyn, seconded by Mr. Beal, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—"That this meeting expresses its entire approbation of the faithful services which the two representatives of the city of Westminster—the Hon. R. W. Grosvenor, M.P., and John Stuart Mill, M.P.—have rendered to the constituency. That this meeting tenders them its warmest thanks, and resolves to do all in its power to return them to Parliament at the ensuing election."

THE SEVERN has reached a lower level than has been known in the memory of man.

THE EXCESSIVE HEAT is rapidly running up our bills of mortality. Last week the rate in London was 27 in the 1000, while at Manchester it was as high as 39. Week by week the large towns of England have steadily increased from 22 per 1000 in the beginning of June to 28 now. The increase has been greatest in London, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, and Sheffield; and has been almost entirely due to the fatal prevalence of summer diarrhoea.

## Literature.

*The Lost Link.* A Novel. By TOM HOOD, Author of "A Golden Heart," &c. 3 vols. London: Tinsley Brothers.

In a modest preface, Mr. Hood says he thinks that, if he may claim credit for more than interesting and amusing his readers, it must be for the experiment of making something new out of those stock materials of fiction—bigamy and the detective police. But those two materials of fiction are not all that he has employed; and it would be difficult, indeed, to say what kind of crime he has left untouched. People have long since made a jest of such things in novels, and, to some extent, erroneously; for, after all, the things in themselves are legitimate enough, and when fault is found, it will generally happen that it is the way of putting those things wherein the fault lies. Now, Mr. Hood never makes the "blood creep," nor would he dream of "freezing the marrow in the bones," even in the hottest July, when it might not be unacceptable. The murder is a mere mention, and the victim is of no consequence. There is no lingering over the suicide with charcoal, and the incident is pure poetical justice. The chapter in which the fatal duel takes place is admirably written, and is remarkable for the easy way in which the *skilful* swordsman is made to suffer, and which also is justice. The burglary with violence is touched with an almost playful hand, and in no way hurts one's feelings. The bigamy does make a somewhat painful impression; but it is very different to the bigamy introduced of late years, which is revolting and disgusting, and, after all, it is proved never to have occurred. And then, the detective officer! He is a capital character, and the story could not get on without him. His talent and energy run through the book and keep the reader in a constant flutter of interest and amusement; and he is the unconscious agent who clears up the story or stories, although he happens to have been a stupid blunderer from the very beginning. Out of such materials Mr. Hood has made a new and very pleasing book, which, besides having the great merit of a story more intricate and more skillfully woven than one novel in a dozen or two, is written with ease and cheerfulness, and adorned with occasional pieces of writing that make the reader pause for enjoyment or reflection. The story is so minutely complicated that an attempt to describe it could do it no injury, because any such attempt would certainly prove a failure. What may be called the respectable part of the interest turns upon the love affairs of Gervase Lane and Mary Bellisham. Gervase is to inherit his uncle Mark's large fortune, but, when the uncle suddenly marries, Mary's matchmaking mother breaks off the engagement, and Mary is forced into a marriage with a wealthy and eccentric young Baronet, Sir Charles Lewis, who mysteriously disappears five minutes after the ceremony. At this point a variety of circumstances lead to the belief that the Baronet is in reality plain Edward Griffin, a convict just escaped from Dartmoor; and, as the convict was known to be married, poor Mary's griefs are increased considerably, for she knows not whether she is a convict's wife or no wife at all. She is entirely separated from Lane; but he, in the course of years, becomes a rising barrister, and, through a hundred incidents which nothing but the book could explain, is instrumental in bringing about a happy and honourable ending. It is not our business to explain the story of Sir Charles Lewis; but we may say that the reader soon finds that Griffin is innocent, and that the accounts of his dangers and escapes in London and the country, and the love passage on the wharf, and the final happiness, are all lifelike and full of interest. Of a totally different stamp are the scenes on the coast of France. Mark Lane is wealthy, and the very prince of the place; but the "Countess" proves to be something more than a swindler, and nothing could be worse than the scamp whom she passes off for her "brother;" and so there come the duel and the charcoal already mentioned, and then the death of Mark, leaving all his fortune to his nephew Gervase, as before.

The character of the story will be seen, but we have not told one tenth of it. It is a masterpiece of joiner's work, the dovetailing of which is really surprising. And whether readers care or not to admit the accuracy and minuteness of the workman, they will admire the broad general effect.

*Crowned.* By EDWARD CAMPBELL TAINSH. 2 vols. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

This novel is certain to be acceptable in small country places, since the inhabitants will see themselves as faithfully reflected in it as in a looking-glass. The Londoner, however, may tire at seeing the reflection once again. It is designed to show the sorrows and the joys attending a country parson until he is "crowned"—i.e., buried; and the picture is painted so thoroughly in the Dutch fashion that a reader of ordinary intelligence might be pardoned for not taking in all its closely-woven merits. The story is slight enough; but the analyses of different peoples' minds and motives, and how they are influenced by circumstances, are copious indeed. But Mr. Tainsh, to his praise be it said, does not give us descriptions of faces, figures, and costumes; of how rooms were furnished, and what kind of things the people have to eat. It is essentially a mental novel; and, no doubt, if read as a study, would prove to be a sound, moral, and bracing training for the mind. The opening is curious:—A country gentleman, Mr. Pascal, claims to be descended from the Pascal, and this is supposed to have some influence on his character—which happens to be a weak one, if not bad. But, as he and his wife die, it does not much matter; and the interest centres in his son Maurice and his daughter Edith. Now, Maurice had once heard his father tell a very modest white lie, since when his creed of morals has been of the sternest. He is gloomy, ascetic, griggish; and, whilst courteous and honourable to a lady who has been very kind to the family amidst different afflictions, throughout the book he will never be friendly towards her because he had once overheard her say that his mother was a little weak-minded. From so gloomy a hero the reader must not expect a lively novel. It is, as Carlyle says, the reverse of that. Maurice is a clever fellow. He works, and gets into the Church, and has a living as chaplain to a chemical factory at a place called Embleton. Here he begins some new arrangements which soon bring him into hot water. On Sundays he prefers to give a little social advice instead of a sermon, but he does not object to the ordinary arrangements for the evening. Prayers are wanted, he says, not parson. He administers the sacrament every week, and soon refuses it to a factory man who has had a fight. Then he refuses it altogether to all the factory men, and publicly rebukes them because, at the celebration of their annual festival, some of them have taken too much beer. He is really too good, and the clerical deviations are not admired. He is talked about all over the parish, and not always to his advantage; and, although some people adore him, and he is supposed to be working immense good, it is no more than an up-and-down popularity after all. And then he takes "the fever," and then he recovers, and then he dies, and then he is "crowned." It is not a cheerful book. We are fairly tired of these country-town stories, with "the fever," and the many dreary chapters about establishing the schools and the baths and washhouses. Mr. Kingsley has used it all up fifteen years ago. Far pleasanter are the other characters. Edith is a faithful, thoughtful girl, and her love affairs with Dr. Westbeech worthy of far more filling out. The doctor's character, like the others, is very subtly drawn—almost over-refined. He is frightfully weak, and incurs Maurice Pascal's eternal silence because he soothes over an unpleasantness with a something which is certainly not quite truth. And so the lovers are disunited, bearing it in a queer, quiet way, until all things come right. Mr. Wentworth is also exceedingly good, and his conversation and style easy and amusing. His story, with that of Annie Smedley, and her old father, and the villain Maxwell, are quite enough for a book in themselves. They do their best, and with some kind of success, to assist the dull fortunes of Maurice Pascal, the factory, the schools, the washhouse, &c.; and lead us to hope for something with more humanity and less polemics from Mr. Tainsh next time.

*The Pupils of St. John the Divine.* By the Author of "The Heir of Redclyffe." (The Sunday Library for Household Reading.) London: Macmillan and Co.

In a totally different spirit to the recently published work on "The Gospel of St. John," by a Layman, in which the Fourth Evangelist is criticised in no measured terms, Miss Yonge approaches her subject with excellent belief and reverence. The "Pupils" are few indeed, but the disciples are many, and, "looking upon each as a Church," she finds them forcible and valuable indeed. St. John's "course seems to have been, in an especial manner, explanation and organisation," without which, indeed, it would have been impossible for many Churches to have flourished. From this point of view the "Layman" is, of course, utterly mistaken. In this eloquent little volume for the young the history of the East from the time of Christ to the practical overthrow of heathenism at the death of Julian—i.e., of the Christian Church and its opponents—is told clearly and on indisputable authority. The principal chapters of history comprise Artemis attacked in her temple, the exile of Patmos, the stories of Ignatius the childlike saint, of Quadratus the philosopher, of Polycarp, and of Irenæus, the tribulation at Smyrna, down to "The Victory," "the Churches of St. John" and their "present aspect." It is an excellent book for a serious present, and has the advantage of being all truth rather than a moral romance. There are four good illustrations.

*Medusa, and other Tales.* By the Author of "A Week in a French Country House." London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

"Medusa" will be remembered by magazine readers. It is a simple story, very pathetic, and charmingly told. It is a case of love at first sight—the Medusa-like beauty being pursued until her miserable story is told, and happiness seems likely enough to follow. So far it may be called simple; but, in retrospect, it is forcible German romance. Mrs. Sartoris has a somewhat deceptive trick of letting the more important story spring from the less important. But every line seems to bear the impress of experience, and that experience of an interesting and amiable character. Another story, "Madame de Montferriat," is also retrospective, and also of love at first sight. Madame, in her youth, was "Bronzini," the "famous singer," and a worthy young silversmith having made her an offer, she rewards him, in after years, by giving his daughter a handsome marriage present—noting carefully that her ancient lover has now, besides a family, a round stomach and a red nose! The humour of all this is gracefully playful, and the characters may be loved; and yet, after all, it is more about music than anything else, and in no way complimentary to the English. "Recollections of the Life of Joseph Heywood" has a funny little bit of broken-hearted love story in it; but, properly, it is musical criticism all over. By criticism, we do not mean that detestable slang about X Y Z above or below the line, or minor thirds, or "touching upper notes with bell-like accuracy," or florid movement, or artistic articulation. We mean the power that certain music possesses over the mind, the senses. The reminiscences of Mr. Heywood will be much liked, and doubtless much criticised in its turn. There is a wholesale, a reckless, denunciation of Verdi; and, concerning the English people of to-day, we are told they may be musical, but at best they are musical fools and idiots. Then the keynote is again struck. "I remember, I remember;" "The days when I was young;" "In my time," &c. Then people admired Arne, Purcell, Haydn, and others, and understood them. Now, they admire disgraceful trash. And there used to be Italian singers who could sing! But where are the friends of my youth? Nowadays, Mrs. Sartoris complains, the Italians hate Mozart, and slur him over; and they slur everything over if there is not a good house. As a commentary on musical manners, operas, concerts, and private musical parties, this is an exquisite paper. And, of course, the low and degraded musical hall music does not escape scot-free. A few thoughtful pages finish the volume. They are called "On Words Best Left Unsaid," and are a lament that small people discover (invent?) everything bad against big people, and seem to be quite unaware that there could ever have been anything good about them.

*Thurstan Meverell; or, the Forest of the Peak.* A Romance. By HENRY KIRKE. London and Derby: Bemoose and Sons.

This is as curious a book as the season has sent us. To begin with, it would almost appear that the romance is a mere blind for the reader, who is, in reality, "let in" for copious descriptions of the Peak and Forest of Derbyshire. However, these happen to be gracefully and enthusiastically written, and have nothing of the guide-book about them; and, moreover, the geography of the Peak is worked in cleverly with the incidents. The romance is romantic indeed. Thurstan Meverell is walking through the Forest of the Peak, when he falls down a precipice; and, returning to consciousness, finds himself hospitably tended by Squire Vernon of Hazlebacke, his daughter Margaret, and his niece, Lucy Morewood. He agrees to stay a few days, and immediately falls in love with Lucy, which compliment Lucy evidently returns.

But Margaret has also fallen in love with Thurstan, and so she leads him to understand that Lucy is engaged to some one already. Whereupon the facile gentleman declares that he has all along adored Margaret, who consents to be married instantly. But, in the morning, Thurstan sends Margaret a letter, saying that it is all a mistake, and leaves the house in a hurry. The Squire declares that the girls must be at the bottom of such strange conduct, so he consequently anathematizes everything and dies of apoplexy. Margaret now possesses all the property, which she disposes of in this manner:—She leaves everything to Lucy and her "dying curse" to Thurstan Meverell. And then, as Lucy is evidently dying of love, she writes to Meverell to hasten to the bedside in time; and, as a Mr. Blackwall, an astrologer, and friend of Meverell, has just shown that person a vision of Lucy very near death's door, he goes off at once, and is in time to make all end happily. At least there are some more deaths; but still we think the story ends happily—we know we laughed. Very likely Mr. Kirke will write a much better story some day. At present he makes all his people talk moral essays; one girl loves to believe that every flower has a separate soul; and there is too much nonsense about a dull, prosaic world, and about the sordid earth compared with a mountain-top. Other matters, such as introducing the Earl of E— as a friend of the owner of Chatsworth, are unwarrantable, and should be avoided as bad taste.

MEMORIALS OF LORD PALMERSTON.—Two memorials to Lord Palmerston were inaugurated at Romsey on Tuesday. One is a window in the abbey church, consisting of a triplet of lancets at the west end of the nave. The centre light is 39 ft. by 5 ft. 7 in., and the two side lights are 36 ft. 6 in. by 4 ft. 2 in. each. The design of this window, which is from the works of Clayton and Bell, and has cost 1000 ga., is to exemplify the idea of government descending from heaven to earth. At the bottom of the window are the heraldic bearings of Lord Palmerston, and the inscription, "In memory of Viscount Palmerston, ob. 1865." Service in the church having been concluded, Mr. Noble's statue of his Lordship, in the marketplace, was unveiled. The total cost of the two memorials was nearly £2000. The Right Hon. W. F. Cowper, M.P., entertained a select party at dinner, at Broadlands, in the evening.

COUNTY FINANCE.—The principle of county financial boards has been approved by the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the present mode of conducting the financial arrangements of English and Welsh counties. They believe that, on the whole, the county magistrates have conducted the business with a general regard to economy; still they recognise the growing desire of the ratepayers to be represented when the question of expenditure is under consideration. The Committee therefore suggest the establishment of the following system of financial control:—The boards of guardians in counties might elect representatives who should be admitted to take part in and vote at all meetings of magistrates held for the consideration of questions of county expenditure. In cases where a Poor-law union is situated in more than one county, a representative may be elected in each county where there are at least six parishes or townships; and where there is a less number, the parishes or townships should be added to the adjoining union for the purposes of election. Committees appointed for the purpose of managing the finances of separate departments should consist of an equal number of magistrates and representatives, each body electing its own members of such committees.



## SCENES IN GUAYAQUIL, REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR, SOUTH AMERICA.



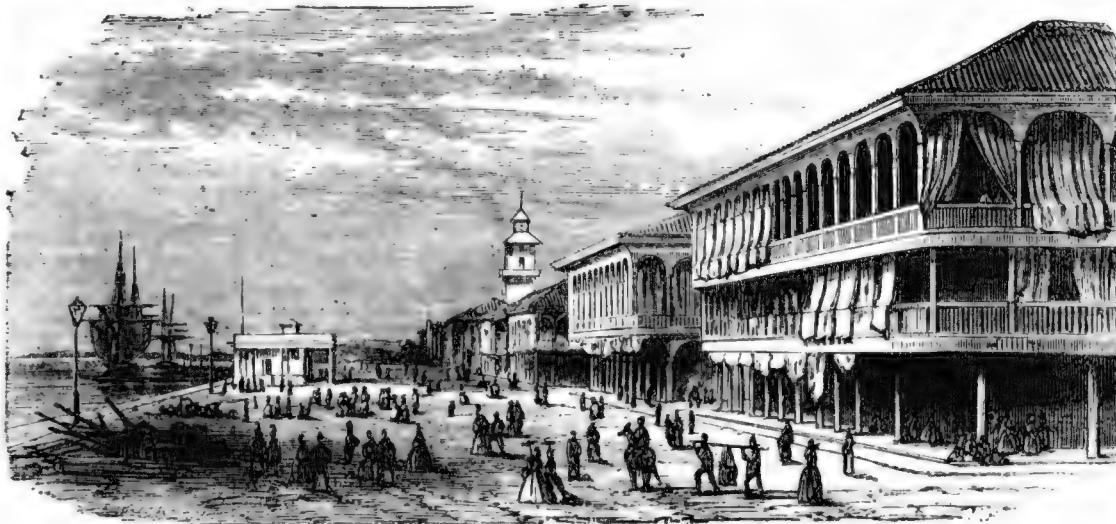
THE PORT.

## GUAYAQUIL, ECUADOR.

We have in former Numbers given some account of that tract of country known as the Ecuador, and of the manners and customs of its people; and, indeed, we are constantly hearing of some strange social or political disturbance in that far-off region, where change, without much progress, seems to be the condition under which its inhabitants live. Our Engravings this week, however, represent one of the places where such changes as have been recently made are in the direction of improvement. Certainly there is little chance of Guayaquil, or, indeed, any part of the Ecuador, becoming a common tourists' trysting-place; whoever goes there does so with the express object of visiting the strange seaport city itself; for it is in the way to no other place, though its trade is large and its commerce flourishing. Like its neighbours the republics of New Grenada and Peru, Guayaquil arose from the emancipation of the Spanish colonies, which followed the revolution of the present century. It presents the same mixture of races, the same picturesque modes of life, the same squalor and splendour, the same strange blending of apparently opposite elements, which distinguish all those countries where the first followers of Pizarro and Cortes claimed the right of conquest and of oppression. The immense province, which is so fertile and yet so unhealthy, includes the department of Guayaquil and Manabi, an area of 14,400 square miles, with the Andes for the eastern boundary of its level space. Cacao, cereals, fruit, rice, cotton, and tobacco are abundant, and form its

principal articles of merchandise, while the forests furnish a large quantity of various kinds of timber. The name of Guayaquil is given to the gulf, the largest inlet on the western coast-line of South America. For fifty miles this gulf, which has the island of Puva at its entrance, extends; and at its northern end it divides

the way with these Ecuadorian cities, into the old and the new town—the former higher up the river than the latter, and devoted, of course, to the poorer part of the inhabitants. Here the frameworks of the houses are mostly wood, the houses themselves little more than one-story huts, except in the principal street, where they attain to the dignity of two stories, the ground-floors being partitioned out as shops. Guayaquil, however, is a busy and lively city, and the new town is a place of no little importance, its quays and warehouses full of bustling activity, its streets not a little picturesque, and some of its public buildings having a respectable appearance. The 25,000 inhabitants of the place seem to thrive, for Guayaquil is the great outlet of the commerce of the whole province—is, in fact, the only port of the Ecuador; and though the town is pestilential in summer from the mud that is exposed to the sun by the receding tide, and fever is always lying in wait for strangers; though the streets are ankle-deep in mud during the rainy season, and there is scarcely any drainage, from the fact that the town stands on a dead level; though the city is backed by a marsh which adds its miasmatic vapours to the tainted air; though the queer old houses swarm with creeping things, and the water supply is generally short, it is a place which has attractions for the money-making people, who stand by it and keep up its character as the commercial outlet of the whole country.



THE QUAYS.

into two narrow branches, which penetrate several miles inland and form part of the estuaries of a number of united streams, on one of which stands the city of Guayaquil—a queer old, parched, sun-dried, rickety place, with quaint forms of houses and half-Moorish shapes in the towers and roofs of public buildings. It is divided, as is

the water supply is generally short, it is a place which has attractions for the money-making people, who stand by it and keep up its character as the commercial outlet of the whole country.

The first buildings that attract the visitor who comes along-



THE CATHEDRAL.



side are on the great wharf, with its railway running the entire length of the quay to transport goods to the custom-house and the vast warehouses. The operations of unloading and lading the 200 vessels which go to the port of Guayaquil are conducted with an energy and dispatch very unusual in South America; and the quays are not only useful in a trading sense, but are the finest promenade in the whole city.

The finest street is that of Del Correo, where the circulation of air is maintained by the openings between the buildings and the peculiar construction of the branching thoroughfares; but there are few edifices worthy of much notice in the new town. The arsenal for maritime construction and repairs is an institution of some importance, and the shipbuilding yards are a growing feature of the industries of the city. The cathedral represented in our Engraving is, of course, the principal building in the town; there are also three convents, a college, and a hospital—all respectable buildings. The cathedral is flanked by the seminary and chapel of Luján; and, even after having visited Italy and Spain, the traveller will be impressed by the marvellous details of saints, patrons, and Madonnas of these South American churches, where the shrines and offerings are too numerous to inspect, and comprise a variety of articles almost bewildering.

The scourge of the South American Republics in their chief cities has hitherto been fire. Destruction was continually following in the track of some spark which was sufficient to set whole streets in a blaze. At Guayaquil, however, the people, more energetic than some of their countrymen, have provided against this danger. A corps of sappers and miners, or rather of pompiers, has been organised by the French Consul, who has brought the men to such efficiency that the inhabitants, instead of folding their arms and letting the flames burn themselves out, send off on the first alarm for the aid which their protectors are always willing to render in such an emergency.

#### FRANCIS DEAK.

The army, its organisation and control, is the great question of the day in Hungary; and in the Diet, the other day, Deak made one of those telling speeches of which he has such a mastery, placing the question, after a lengthy discussion, in quite a fresh light. The question was whether the proposition of the Minister of Finance should be adopted, according to which the members of the municipalities were to be made personally responsible for any pecuniary damages accruing from their non-execution of the orders of the Minister of Finance with regard to the collection of taxes voted by the Diet. The argument of the Opposition was that this would impair the independence of the municipalities and be their destruction; while Deak proved eloquently that it would be the reverse which would lead to the destruction of the municipalities, as it would show their incompatibility with a responsible Government.

Francis Deak, of whom we this week publish a portrait, and who, by his firm yet strictly legal policy, has been the main instrument in accomplishing the reconciliation of Austria and Hungary, and in obtaining for his country the full recognition of her rights and privileges, was born at Kechida, in the year 1803. In the earliest years of his boyhood he was remarkable for quick intelligence, and the aptitude he evinced in his scholastic studies. At College he attained high distinction, and in the year 1832 he was elected to the Diet by the Zalaer Comitatus, which he represented until the year 1836.

Deak is a man of the strictest integrity of principle. Of this he afforded evidence in 1843, when he preferred relinquishing his trust as a deputy to giving utterance to a word which his conscience could not fully approve.

In 1844 he travelled in various parts of the Continent, and in 1847 the state of his health induced him to decline being elected a deputy. Meanwhile he maintained an active correspondence with the Liberal party in his native country, and when, in the spring of 1848, Count Louis Batthyani formed a Hungarian Ministry, Deak accepted the portfolio of Justice. On the dissolution of Batthyani's Ministry he retired into private life, and occupied himself in the pursuit of literature and science.

The year 1861 again called him into the arena of political action, and from that time until the reconciliation of King and people was effected in 1866, Deak was the recognised leader of the Moderate



FRANCIS DEAK, THE HUNGARIAN PATRIOT.

National party in Hungary, the policy pursued by whom has now been crowned with success. Deak has been offered office, honours, and wealth by Francis Joseph, who has even condescended to pay personal visits to the man who was once his staunchest opponent, but the patriot has declined them all, preferring to have it recorded of him—as assuredly it will be recorded—that he served his country for herself alone.

In manner Deak is unassuming and even diffident, and he possesses a wonderful amount of calmness and self-command. These last-mentioned qualities, together with his powerful eloquence, have enabled him to influence and even to control the turbulent spirits of his countrymen in the most excited times.

#### THE RAILWAY DAM ACROSS THE SCHELDE.

THE river Schelde, before it reaches the German Ocean, divides into two principal arms, named respectively the Schelde Oriental and the Schelde Occidental. The space situated between these two arms, traversed by many smaller streams, forms the islands of North Beveland and Walcheren, which are included in the Dutch province of Zeeland. The soil of these islands, being considerably below the water-mark, is protected on all sides by dykes against the invasion of the sea.

On the so-called Oriental Schelde, between the island of South Beveland and the shore of North Brabant, a grand railway dam has been constructed, connecting Berg-op-Zoom with Flessingue, bringing thus the last-named important port in connection with the general railway network of the Continent. Although the spot chosen for the construction of the dam is where the river is narrowest, yet it is near four kilometres (nearly two miles) long; and that the difficulties to overcome were of no slight nature will be understood when it is borne in mind that at that place the Schelde

is subject to all the fluctuations of the tides of the sea, from which it is distant only a few miles. This important construction has been completed in less than fifteen months, of which three months only were occupied in the actual damming up of the river. The works were begun in February, 1867, and the line is now opened for traffic. The dyke (3640 metres long) describes a slight curve in nearing the right bank, and took 123 cubic metres of solid material per metre length; altogether a total of about 500,000 cubic metres. This material consists of a bed of fascines resting on the bottom of the river, on which repose a bed of concrete, then ballast and earth, all protected from the water by solid masonry. The width of the dyke is thirty yards, and it rises to a height of fifteen yards over high-water mark.

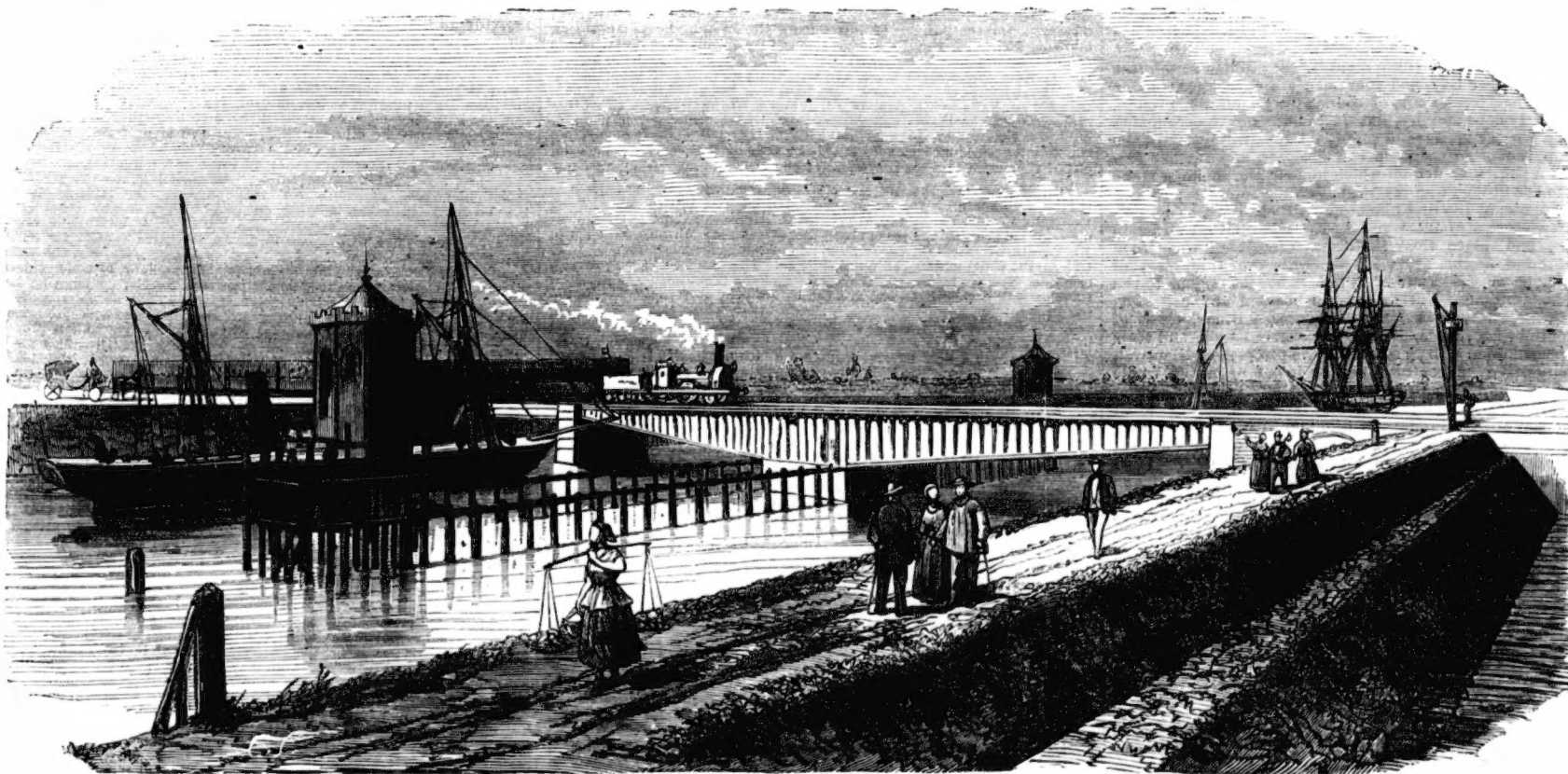
As the construction of this dam closed up the navigation of the Schelde, it was necessary to establish other means of communication with the mouth of the Meuse. To that end a canal has been cut that traverses the island of South Beveland, between Hansweert and Wemeldange. This canal, which the railway crosses by a turning bridge, is of sufficient depth to allow the passage of ships of deep draught, and is sixteen miles in length.

#### IN CAMP ON THE COMMON.

(From the "Daily Telegraph.")

THOSE who want to appreciate the advantages and disadvantages of camp life should not be content with a visit in the daytime to Wimbledon-common, or they will most certainly carry away with them a too flattering idea. Nor would it be fair to estimate what that life would be to those who camp out for a fortnight by the experiences of a single night. Sleeping in a tent, through such sultry nights as we now have, is pleasant; yet by reason of the society into which a man is plunged—much of which is unwelcome—the night does not pass altogether so delightfully as to be a joy for ever. The impression derived from one night is certainly not pleasant, although the volunteers themselves affirm that a quartet in a neighbouring camp, prolonged to an early hour of the morning, varied occasionally by bad imitations of the crowing of a cock, the braying of a donkey, or the howl of a cat, by reason of their frequency, do not at all interfere with the sleep of the genuine camp lodger. This may be true; and the casual visitor of a day and night must, therefore, not be prejudiced. But suppose a friend drops into a camp for four-and-twenty hours, how does he fare? Let him accept the hospitality of a camp tent. Dinner

is served about seven o'clock in the evening, and at eleven he turns into bed. Ten minutes after he hears the bugle sound all lights out. The lamp in his tent is extinguished, the curtain is drawn, and, with a profound contempt for bars and bolts, he composes himself to sleep. A quarter of an hour elapses, and then the sentry warns all officers that the limit of their indulgence is reached, and all tents should be in total darkness. But by the sounds on all sides of his tent the visitor is assured the volunteers are very wakeful. One stentorian voice bawls, "Sergeant-Major, I can't find my blanket; lend me your lantern." The Sergeant-Major is the best of all soldiers, the most obliging, civil fellow in a camp; but even his patience has a limit. The blanket is found, and half an hour elapses. Then the same voice calls out, "I say, Sergeant-Major." "Well, Sir, what now?" asks the Sergeant. "Why, this bed's full of earwigs." "Turn them out, Sir," he replies, and rushes away to another part of the camp, where three or four voices are uniting to summon him. There are four in the tent, and only three mattresses. Somebody for a lark has removed one and taken out the straw. By the time the mattress is restuffed a light is discovered in a neighbouring camp. Four or five Sergeant-Majors appear to have found this out at the same moment, and on all sides the cry is raised, "Put out that light." The disturbance fully rouses those who are not accustomed to the sort of noise; and the culprits themselves, disappointed in a game of cards, resort to unpleasant measures of revenge. They issue a vocal invitation to all the Sergeant-Majors in camp to take a cup and drink it up, repeating the invitation in louder and more unmusical notes every moment. To stop the hubbub, a sentry with a lantern explores the interior of the offending tent, and then he discovers two strangers; and, as he is not sure of being able to capture the six himself, he proceeds to summon the guard. In the mean time, the strangers are led quickly to the wooden fencing and helped over;



RAILWAY DAM ACROSS THE SCHILDT: THE CANAL BRIDGE AT SOUTH BEVELAND.



and, as the height to fall is seven feet, and the noisy intruders are not particularly careful, they get a rough tumble among the heather on the other side. There was a certain Baronet in one of the camps, who became particularly noted for the noises with which he made night hideous; and, as he had gone on Friday, a quiet rest was anticipated on Saturday. Such, however, was not the result. He left behind him several who, under his tuition, were most alarming imitators of the early village cock. But that which was tolerated in a Baronet was not to be endured from a few privates. The crowing commenced about midnight, and the offenders were warned that, if they repeated the noise, they should be put under arrest. Early in the morning the crowing was renewed: the sentries entered the tent, and caught a fine young bantam in the very act of crowing. The criminal was at once arrested, and on Sunday he appeared well boiled before his captors, so that the jokers had the laugh against them. These little disturbances are all over in due time; and happy is the man whose deep sleep is not further disturbed by earwigs. The breed of these creatures is said to be peculiar to the common. They are larger and more vivacious than their relatives in other districts. A commissionaire was heard to say that he did not care for the noises at night, but the "earwigs are very frivolous."

In the morning the bugle sounds at six, and the volunteers must then turn out. Generally speaking, they are up long before that hour, and may be seen in the different camps indulging in baths after a most primitive fashion. At seven o'clock a band perambulates the camp, playing lively airs. This is the signal for some hundreds that breakfast is ready in the public room. In the private camps breakfast is over by 8, and at 9.15 a.m. firing at the butts commences. At a very early hour in the morning each camp is visited by a shoeblack, and this useful functionary is succeeded by the postman, the newsboy, and hawkers of choice fruit. The volunteers shoot until 1.45 p.m. An interval is then allowed for lunch; and during this time one of the bands in camp plays under the Umbrella tent. At 2.55 p.m. firing is resumed; and at 7.15 p.m. it ceases for the day.

The general arrangement of the camp does not differ very materially from year to year. Close to the grand entrance are the spacious refreshment-rooms belonging to Messrs. Jennison. In front of them are the tents of the council, the statistical department, the printing-offices, a bookseller's establishment, and accommodation for the gentlemen of the press. To the left is another group of tents belonging to the association, and the Ladies' Club; and in front of them again are the Exhibition tent and a very fine tent called the Umbrella. From this point a tramway has been laid down, and trucks for the use of the volunteers are drawn by horses a distance of nearly a mile to the military encampment, whose white tents fill up the end of the camp inclosure, near Wimbledon. Returning to the Putney entrance, there cluster round about the old windmill—whose sails never look more quaint than when they are seen above the white houses of the soldiers—the High-street of the encampment, a tented street of shops; and, circling round the windmill and Earl Spencer's house, the hospital tents will be found. Facing the windmill again, and standing near the Putney gate, on the right, is the encampment of the Guards; to their left the tents of the association. To the right of the Guards the police have a camp, and the private camps of nine or ten volunteer regiments border Strathairn-road. All these private camps are divided from that of the association by Glen Albion, a lovely little dell, which, from the commencement, has always been occupied by the Victoria Rifles. These private camps are all arranged on a uniform plan, and differ from each other only in the extent of ground which they cover. Take, for illustration, the camp of the Tower Hamlets. It is situated on Strathairn-road. A handsome marquee stands on the border of the roadway, which is occupied by Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant Thomson. The tents of his corps form two sides of an oblong, while the mess-tent fills up the end. Behind, and out of sight, are the camp ovens.

There is no definite plan of cooking observed in camp; and some useful regulations may be made in this respect another year, as there could be nothing more dangerous than the number of open fires about the common. The City of London Engineers, who have christened their ground "Anney Camp" and their larder "Kensington Museum," have the regulation ground coppers. The Guards and Victorias have erected brick ovens, and use as well field coppers. The most primitive range belongs to the police. Opposite to their encampment is a little hollow, in the bank of which they have dug out some earth, and then inserted in the ground a few iron bars; on three or four fires made in this way they do their cooking. Nor were they any better off in the way of implements or utensils. One had an iron fork fastened to the end of a stick, and with that he tried the potatoes or turned over the broiling steaks. This work did not seem at all congenial. They complained of it being very dry in such hot weather, and said, "The more beer we drink the more we want"—a remark which showed how wonderfully men cling to their old habits even under the most adverse circumstances. The majority of the tents are of the well-known roll pattern, which enables the sleeper, by raising the cloth one foot from the ground, to ventilate his tent very quickly. But the police sleep in the old-fashioned bell tent, which does not admit of any such mode of ventilation; and, their tents being also of a whitey-brown colour, the contrast between their camp and any other is most unfavourable. The furnishing of these cloth habitations is another point on which the utmost latitude is allowed. On application to the association, a tent, pailasse, and straw, with bedding, and washing utensils, are granted at the rate of 1s. 2d. per head per day, and four men are expected to lodge together. The mattresses are, of course, placed on the ground, which is perfectly hard and dry, and the resources of the occupants are taxed in a variety of ways to supply internal fittings. In the Guards' camp the utmost disrespect is paid to any further furnishing. If a peg is wanted on which to hang the shako, a stake is driven into the ground and the hat put on the top of it; so that the Guards appear, at the first glance down their lines, to be cultivating a new species of black cabbage. They sit on straw in the daytime, and place their tin dishes containing their food upon the ground. But it is not so with the volunteers of the Civil Service or the Victoria Rifles. They have gone to the very opposite extreme. Their tents are boarded and carpeted; they are furnished with a lounge chair, or a couch, chest of drawers, looking-glass, table, flower-vases, costly lamps, and their mattress is placed upon an iron bedstead. No places more beautiful, or more suggestive of comfort, can be found upon the whole common. Some of the marquees occupied by the commanding officers are furnished in a most elaborate manner. That of Colonel Thomson, of the Tower Hamlets, is fitted up with the most costly furniture; but one quaint thing in his temporary residence is a set of theatrical dolls which dangle about the sides of the tent. Almost all the camps cultivate the ground about their tents. The circular, triangular, and straight lines of flowers that abound everywhere create a most pleasing effect. Only in the police camp is there an absence of all cultivation of the ground; and they attempted to supply the deficiency on Sunday morning by sticking large boughs of trees about. The mess-tent of the London Scottish is decorated with stage antlers, and monstrous thistles stand in pots on each side of the doorway.

A custom has also grown up in some camps of christening each tent by some odd name. In the association camp, where detachments of volunteers from all parts of England are to be found, the names of tents are distinguished by a letter and number, but the letter is usually dropped and a sign adopted. Thus there is the "Essex Calves' Retreat," while "Bloaters' Bay," "Corner Cottage," and "The Cedars," are in the same lines. The Guards have christened the walk between their tents "Love-lane." The Victoria bandmen, who occupy the adjacent camp, have entered into the humour of this practice with startling effect. One of the most elaborate signs is at tent IX, in row X. Figure and letter are made to stand for P.O. IX. X; and a drawing represents that officer in the act of marching off with half a dozen un-

muzzled dogs. "Harmony Hall" is occupied by the bandmaster, and next door is "The Beehive," with the lines "How doth the little busy bee improve each shining hour," in illustration whereof is the head of a volunteer, his face hidden in a quart pot. The busy bees, however, got into trouble on Saturday, and accidentally had their tent set on fire. Another place is the "Chapel of Ease," so called because the occupants are the most lazy in the camp. The same humour must have permeated the council on some occasion. Outside the statistical tent there are two posts, on one is a box inscribed "Suggestions," and above stands a monstrous metal earwig; on the other box is a post with the word "Complaints," and upon it sits a very sagacious owl. The sarcasm thus pointed at the grumblers has been so effective that few complaints or suggestions have been dropped into the boxes.

Among the camps on Strathairn-road are those of the 19th Middlesex, South Middlesex, Tower Hamlets Rifle Brigade, City of London Engineers, Queen's Westminster, London Rifles, 1st Surrey, London Scottish, and the Middlesex and the Civil Service. Facing the camp of the London Scottish is Glen Albion, a lovely little dell, knee-deep in ferns and heather in full bloom, amongst which the Victorias are encamped. Sheltered by sloping banks, this fine branch of the volunteer service, the first to try the experience of tented life, pitches its luxuriously-furnished tents annually on the same spot. Close beside them, in another sheltered nook, are the comfortably-furnished tents of Lords and Commons. Then the tents of the association are pitched just above the fern dell, and they sweep round to the left of the windmill, and about upon the ranges for shooting at pool targets and the running deer. Still closer to the windmill is High-street, which has a row of tented shops, where an active trade—excepting only one business—is carried on. Here are several celebrated rifle-makers, shoeshops, photographic establishments, tent furnishers, cigar divans, and armourers' tents.

#### THE WIMBLEDON MEETING.

At Wimbledon, on Friday week, the shooting excited extraordinary interest, which was principally owing to the fact that the competition in the first stage of the Queen's prize was drawing to a close. Some excellent scores were made, but the practice at 600 yards range does not appear to have been quite as good as in former years. An immense crowd of spectators gathered at Wimbledon, last Saturday, to witness the shooting for the Irish international challenge trophy. This match arises out of the contest between the three teams of twenty selected to shoot for the Enfield trophy. From each twenty the man who makes the highest score is chosen as the representative of his country. Captain Armstrong, 1st Lanarkshire, was the Irish champion, and succeeded in winning the prize with the capital score of 59; Sergeant Penderleith gained second place for Scotland, with 54; and Corporal Hepplestone, 6th Lancashire, who was very unfortunate at the 500 and 600 yards ranges, only put together 37 for England. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, accompanied by Prince Teck, arrived in time to witness the conclusion of the match. When the scores were made up, Captain Armstrong, who was loudly cheered by the spectators, was presented to his Royal Highness and received the bronze cross, which is awarded to the winner of the trophy.

Considering the intense and almost unparalleled heat of Monday, it is not very surprising that the number of visitors to Wimbledon camp was comparatively small. The only matter of wonder is, that, under the circumstances, the competitors should be so numerous and the shooting so good. There have never been higher averages, and some individual scores were magnificent. The keenness of the competition between the breech-loading rifles has created great interest, and it will be no easy matter to pronounce upon the respective merits of several of the new weapons which are now on their trial. Some alarm was caused in the course of the afternoon by the grass taking fire in two places. In one instance some wooden palings and boards were consumed.

The great event on Tuesday was the close of the competition for the Queen's prize. The winner was a gentleman named Peake, of Manchester, and notwithstanding the fierce heat, he was carried in triumph round the camp by the more enthusiastic members of his corps. At noon the thermometer marked 93 deg. in the shade. A protest, however, was entered against Mr. Peake for a breach of the regulations as to loading.

This matter having been investigated by the council, Mr. Peake was on Wednesday declared disqualified, in consequence of having used a private instead of the regulation wad. This must be a bitter disappointment to a man who had succeeded in scoring 70 points during a week of such weather as has never before attended the gathering at Wimbledon. To retire to rest the winner of the gold medal and £250, to be the crack shot out of the 2000 picked volunteers of England, and to be shorn of all his glory on the following morning simply because you have not happened to use the regulation cartridge, is a mortification of a character such as few men have the mortification to experience. Lieutenant Carslake, of the 5th Somerset, who had scored 65, is the next in order of winning.

**OVERCROWDED HOUSES AT THE WEST-END.**—A recent investigation has brought to light some startling facts as to overcrowding at the West-End. In a street abutting on Regent-street twenty-six houses have been measured for the purpose of introducing the Lodging-house Act; and, allowing 500 cubic feet for each person, they should have contained 198 people. It was found, however, that no less a number than 549 human beings were sheltered in these houses, giving an excess of population in twenty-six houses of 351 persons. Dr. Lankester has given it as his opinion that 500 houses in the district of St. James's, Westminster, are thus overcrowded. At the lowest calculation this district contains 7000 more inhabitants than the law permits, and as there is no probability of extending the building accommodation, it is only by sending the excess of population out of the parish that the provisions of the Act can be carried out.

**THE SUPPOSED POEM BY MILTON.**—A keen controversy has arisen as to the authorship of the poem discovered at the British Museum by Professor Morley, and by him attributed to Milton. The Earl of Winchester does not believe that the poem bears the evidence of Milton's authorship. His Lordship dissects the production, and criticises it almost line by line. One part is voted "bathos;" another, "rubbish;" in a third "there is a crumb of comfort for the poor rhyesters of the nineteenth century;" a fourth "smack of filling a gap in a tenth-rate copy of verses." Assuming its authenticity, Lord Winchester maintains that Milton "must have been very old and very ill" when he commenced this poem, but towards the end he must certainly have gone what is vulgarly called "off his head." Upon no other principle could he have perpetrated such a "jumble from Bedlam" as the last ten lines. Mr. Rye, the assistant keeper of printed books at the British Museum, says the poem is subscribed with the initials "P. M.," and not "J. M.," and that, moreover, the handwriting is not Milton's.

**THE EISTEDDOD OF 1868.**—The national Eisteddod of Wales will this year be held at Ruthin, Aug. 4, 5, 6, and 7, and every effort is being made by the Committee to insure its success. The presidents of the year are Sir W. W. Wynne, M.P.; Mr. T. Mainwaring, M.P.; Mr. Cornwallis West, Ruthin Castle; and the Mayor of Ruthin; the long list of vice-presidents including the names of the Bishop of St. David's, Lord A. Hill Trevor, M.P., the Right Hon. H. A. Bruce, M.P., and many other influential gentlemen connected with the Principality either by birth or residence. The general plan of the festival very nearly resembles that carried out at Carmarthen last year, the morning sittings being devoted to competitions for the various prizes offered for musical and literary compositions and singing, and the evenings to miscellaneous concerts, for which Miss Edith Wynne, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Lewis Thomas, and other popular artists are engaged. Prizes to the amount of £480 will be awarded in the various competitions. In connection with the Eisteddod an exhibition of works of art and also of the industry and natural products of Wales will be held in the Assembly Rooms. The experiment was tried, in a small way, at Carmarthen; but the committee state that the approaching exposition will be upon a grander scale than has ever yet been attempted in the Principality, and mention as among the contributors the Earl of Denbigh, Viscountess Duncannon, Lord Bagot, Lord Delamere, Sir W. W. Wynne, Colonel Biddulph, M.P., the Hon. Mrs. Rowley, and Lady Marshall. "Social science meetings," under the presidency of Mr. Hugh Owen, will, on the first three mornings of the festival, precede the general meeting in the Pavilion. A special attraction is provided for the last day, when a grand performance of "The Messiah" will be given by a selection of singers from the famous native choirs, who will have the advantage of the conductorship of Mr. John Hallab.

#### OPERA AND CONCERTS.

THE operatic history of the past week has, says a contemporary, been the history of the illnesses of our principal singers. Signor Mario, who had triumphed over the rigour of a polar winter at St. Petersburg, succumbed, the other night, beneath the heat of our tropical summer, when—instead of "Il Barbiere," with Signor Mario as Count Almaviva and Mdlle. Patti as Rosina—"Don Pasquale," with Mdlle. Patti as Norina and Signor Naudin as Norina's lover, was performed. Among the sopranos, neither the most robust nor the most delicate has wholly escaped. Mdlle. Lucca took flight to the Swiss mountains a fortnight ago—with a presentiment, no doubt, of what was coming, but before the worst had actually arrived. Then Mdlle. Rey-Balla fell ill—attacked, like all the others, in a singer's most sensitive organ—the throat. Thus we lost the opportunity of hearing this newly-arrived artist in "L'Africaine," for which she had been announced. Mdlle. Patti was too unwell, the other night, to appear in "La Sonnambula," for which "Un Ballo in Maschera" was substituted. At Her Majesty's Theatre it had been decided, last Saturday, to postpone the representation of "Il Flauto Magico," on account of the indisposition of Mdlle. Titiens, and to give "Martha" instead, with Mdlle. Nilsson in the part of the heroine. But later in the afternoon it was found that the throat of Mdlle. Titiens had got much better, and that the larynx of Mdlle. Nilsson had become slightly affected. It was found desirable then, at the last moment, to carry out the original arrangement for the evening. "The Magic Flute" was played with Mdlle. Titiens as Pamina and Mdlle. Nilsson as The Queen of Night. It was announced that Mdlle. Nilsson would be obliged to omit her second air, to which the audience nobly responded by making her sing her first air twice.

The second performance of "Le Domino Noir," at the Royal Italian Opera, was an improvement on the first; but the production of that work must still be looked upon as a creditable achievement in a moral rather than in a musical point of view. "Le Domino Noir" had been so long promised that Mr. Gye must have felt bound to bring it out before the close of the present season; and no one will imagine it to have been the fault of the manager if, instead of being played by Mdlle. Patti and Signor Mario, the two principal parts were intrusted to Mdlle. Lemmens-Sherrington and Signor Naudin. At a theatre where neither Mdlle. Patti nor Signor Mario were engaged, the singing of the admirable soprano and tenor who undertook the chief characters might have been accepted as thoroughly satisfactory; but, under the actual circumstances, the principal effect of Mdlle. Lemmens-Sherrington's performance was to remind the audience of the absence of Mdlle. Patti; while that of Signor Naudin was to do the same with respect to Signor Mario. Auber's delightful work will not be repeated this season, for the excellent reason that the Royal Italian Opera closed on Thursday night, when an act from "Romeo e Giulietta," an act from "Faust," and an act from "La Figlia del Reggimento" had been announced, for the benefit of the enchanting vocalist who, if report speaks truly, is about to resign all legal right to a name which must always be associated with the brightest days of Italian Opera in England.

A complimentary benefit to Mr. William Harrison is arranged to take place, on Monday next, at Covent-garden Theatre, under very distinguished patronage. It may be fairly said of Mr. Harrison that he has done more than any living man for the cause of English opera, and in his attempts to found it a home has impoverished himself; and, now that he is afflicted with severe illness, he stands in need of this tribute to his talents as a singer, his enterprise as a manager, and his worth as a man. Mr. Harrison worked earnestly in what proved to be a disastrous cause, and we sincerely hope that the public, remembering his past zeal and energy, will rally in strong force on Monday next, and prove their appreciation of his services in the advancement of the lyric art in this country.

MR. RUSSELL GURNEY, the Recorder of London, was seized with illness on Sunday.

FATHER SECCHI, the distinguished Roman astronomer, has applied to the Pope to be sent to the East Indies, to assist at the congress of European astronomers who will meet at that favourable part of the terrestrial globe's surface for observing and studying the approaching eclipse of Aug. 18. Father Secchi was sent by this Government to Spain on an astronomical mission, which proved highly successful, in 1860. It is stated that the Pope has replied that he has no available funds wherewith to send the learned Jesuit to India.

**SCIENTIFIC EDUCATION.**—A short time ago a Select Committee was appointed to inquire into the provisions for giving instruction in theoretical and applied science to the industrial classes. In their report, which has just been published, the Committee recommend that certain endowed schools should be selected in favourable situations for the purpose of being reconstituted as science schools, and that superior colleges and schools for special scientific instruction would require extraordinary aid for their support, in addition to fees, and that such institutions should be established in centres of industry. The Committee are also of opinion that the provinces, and especially the agricultural districts, are entitled to increased aid from the State; that some slight addition to the material to the provisions of the Public Libraries and Museums Act should be altered so as to enable public bodies to levy a slightly increased rate for scientific purposes. The Committee further suggest that the education of higher science teachers should be encouraged by the granting of degrees in science at Oxford and Cambridge, as at other Universities, and by the opening of a greater number of Fellowships to distinction in natural science, as well as in literature and mathematical and moral science.

**HOW TO TREAT DIARRHŒA.**—Sir Thos. Watson, M.D., an eminent authority on medicine, says diarrhœa should not be neglected for an hour, but it should not be arrested by opiates or other repressive means while there is reason to believe the contents of the bowels are morbid and offensive. The purging is the natural way of getting rid of the instant cause. Recovery may be assisted by directing the patient to drink copiously any simple diluent liquid—water (cold or tepid), toast-water, barley-water, or weak tea; and recovery may after be accelerated by sweeping out the alimentary canal by some safe purgative, and then, if necessary, soothing it by an opiate. Castor-oil is, on the whole, the safest and best purgative for this purpose. A table-spoonful of the oil may be taken floating on cold water, or any other orange-liquid which may be preferred by the patient. A mixture of orange-juice or lemon-juice with water forms an agreeable vehicle for the oil. If the dose be vomited it should be repeated immediately, and the patient should lie still and take no more liquid for half an hour, by which time the oil will have passed from the stomach into the bowels. Within an hour or two the oil will usually have acted freely. Then a table-spoonful of brandy may be taken in some thin arrowroot or gruel, and if there be much feeling of irritation, with a sense of sinking, from five to ten drops of landanum may be given in cold water. These means will suffice for the speedy arrest of most cases of choleraic diarrhœa. If the patient have an insuperable objection to castor-oil, or if the oil cannot be retained on the stomach, ten or fifteen grains of powdered rhubarb, or a table-spoonful of the tincture of rhubarb, or a teaspoonful of Gregory's powder, may be substituted for the oil. If the diarrhœa has continued for some hours, the stools having been copious and liquid; if there be no gripping pain in the bowels, no feeling or appearance of distension of the intestines, the abdomen being flaccid and empty, and the tongue clean, we may conclude that the morbid agent has already purged itself away. There will, therefore, be no need for the castor-oil or other laxative, and we may immediately give the brandy in arrowroot and the landanum as before directed. The rule in all cases is not to give the opiate until the morbid poison and its products have for the most part escaped—not to close the door until "the enemy" has been expelled. In some cases of severe and prolonged diarrhœa it may be necessary to repeat the oil and landanum alternately more than once at intervals of three or four hours. Practical skill and tact are required to discriminate these cases. It must be borne in mind that when the choleraic secretions are being actively poured out from the blood-vessels, the bowel, though it may have been completely emptied by a dose of oil, may quickly again become filled with morbid secretions, and hence the need for an occasional repetition of the evacuant dose. If the diarrhœa be associated with vomiting, this should be encouraged and assisted by copious draughts of tepid water. The vomiting affords relief, partly by the stimulus which it gives to the circulation, but mainly by the speedy ejection of morbid secretions. If there be nausea without vomiting, and, more especially, if the stomach be supposed to contain undigested, or unwholesome food or morbid secretions, an emetic may be given—either a teaspoonful of powdered mustard, or a table-spoonful of common salt, or twenty grains of ipecacuanha powder, in warm water. In all cases of severe diarrhœa the patient should remain in bed.—*British Medical Journal.*







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